Aerandria's First Anniversary!

WE'VE GONE THROUGH BLOOD-SUCKING HOTTIES, PRINCES WHO CAN TURN INTO VARIOUS ANIMALS, CUTE DEMONS, PERVERTED GHOSTS, MASOCHIST WITCHES, HORNY TEENAGERS (AND ANIMALS FOR THAT MATTER) TWISTED VILLAINS AND EVEN MORE TWISTED HEROES NOSEBLEED SESSIONS AND THAT PESKY EMOTION CALLED LOVE YET HERE WE STILL ARE CELEBRATING OUR ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY IN GIVING YOU VARIOUS SCANLATIONS TO READ WE'VE SURVIVED CONSTANT WHINING AND POKING ABOUT NEW RELEASES WITH ALL OF OUR HAIR AND BLOOD PRESSURE STILL INTACT

SO WE'D LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE FROM THE STAFFERS (OLD AND NEW), SPONSORS, RABID FANGIRLS AND FANBOYS, TO THOSE SEEMINGLY HARMLESS LURKERS AND LEECHERS THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT ACTS OF KINDNESS, WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT AND FREQUENT RAMPAGES THAT CRASH OUR SERVERS WE COULDN'T HAVE MADE IT A YEAR WITHOUT YOU

SO HERE WE ARE, GIVING YOU A RELEASE EVERY DAY FOR THE WHOLE MONTH OF JUNE! YOU GUYS ARE SO SPOILED! XD

HERE'S TO MORE YEARS AND MORE SCANLATIONS FOR AERANDRIA!

HAPPY FIRST ANNIVERSARY, AERANDRIA!!!

RAWR
Why won't you release the next chapter?!
Can I help you?
What can I do to help?
Fan Girl
It's not like YOU helped out any.
We don't have enough translators or editors
Find us some translators and editors and you'll have your next chapter
Visit our website for details
http://www.aerandria.net

●TOMU OOMI'S WORKS FOR FLOWER COMICS

BARAIRO, MY HONEY. VOL 1 & 2.
KINDAN NO KOI DE IKOU. ALL TEN VOLUMES.
KINDAN NO KOI WO SHIYOU.
ZOKU KINDAN NO KOI WO SHIYOU.

Cover design／
黒木香＋ヘイブリッジスタジオ

COMICS FOR YOUNG GIRLS BEST FRIEND
Petit comic
プチコミック
【毎月8日発売】
http://www.petitcomic.com

MESSAGE FROM THE AUTHOR

WOW! THIS IS MY FOURTEENTH SEPARATE VOLUME!! I'D LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE WHO TOOK INTEREST IN IT! THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT I SUCCESSFULLY MANAGED TO REACH VOLUME 2!

FLOWER COMICS
薔薇色 my ハニー 2
大海とむ
小学館 FCB310

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STORY

THE "TIGER-MASTER" MIKAGE AND THE "TIGER-TAMER" KOUME HAVE FINALLY ADMITTED THEIR FEELINGS FOR EACH OTHER. THE TWO OF THEM GO ON A DATE; EVEN THOUGH MIKAGE IS TERRIBLY BUSY BUT, THERE ARE TOO MANY HINDRANCES AND THINGS DON'T GO SO WELL. AND TO MAKE MATTERS EVEN WORSE, A WOMAN WHO SEEMS TO BE MIKAGE'S FIANCEE STEPS IN. WHAT IN THE WORLD WILL HAPPEN TO KOUME'S LOVE?!

FANTASTIC LOVE VOLUME 2!!

PETIT COMIC AND FLOWER COMICS

BARAIRO, MY HONEY ②

TOMU OOMI

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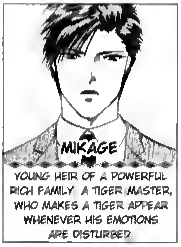
CHAPTER 10. BARAIRO TEA-PARTY ···153

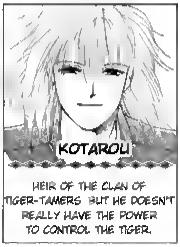
BARAIRO, MY HONEY ②

CHARACTER



YOUNG HEIR OF A POWERFUL RICH FAMILY. A TIGER-MASTER, WHO MAKES A TIGER APPEAR WHENEVER HIS EMOTIONS ARE DISTURBED.

DESPITE THE WAY SHE LOOKS SHE'S A REAL TICKING-TIME BOMB INSIDE! THE POWER OF A TIGER-TAMER BEGINS TO AWAKEN IN HER.



HEIR OF THE CLAN OF TIGER-TAMERS. BUT HE DOESN'T REALLY HAVE THE POWER TO CONTROL THE TIGER.

CHAPTER 6
RENDEZVOUS WITH BARAIRO

DATE?
YOU, KOTAROU-CHAN?
YOU AND MIKA-CHAN, OF COURSE!
Are you making fun of me because I don't have a girl?
Their BIG love scene was right behind the company
Make such a shameful attitude!
There was no love scene you two
YOU TWO FINALLY CONFESSED TO EACH OTHER! ♥
I LOVE YOU TOO, BOSS

AND THE ONE WHO MAKES THE TIGER SUBSIDE IS...
THE TIGER-TAMER
ONCE IN A WHILE THE HEAD OF THE MONAGA FAMILY IS BORN WITH THE ABILITY TO MAKE A VIOLENT-TEMPERED TIGER APPEAR IN ANSWER TO HIS VIOLENT EMOTIONS.
THAT'S THE TIGER-MASTER.

THE FEELINGS I GAINED BY LOOKING AT YOU BY GETTING TO KNOW YOU
THEY HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH BEING A TIGER-MASTER
BUT
BUT THAT THEY APPEARED BECAUSE OF THE TIGER, WHICH CONNECTS US
BECAUSE THE TWO OF US HAVE SUCH A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP, I USED TO THINK OUR FEELINGS WEREN'T REALLY OURS,

THE TWO OF YOU HAVE NEVER EVEN BEEN ON A REAL DATE!
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN THAT ANYTHING HAS REALLY CHANGED...
THEY WERE MY OWN FEELINGS
AND I'M TOO EMBARRASSED TO SAY THEM...
AND MIKA-CHAN'S WORK IS ONLY IN THE MAIN OFFICES NOW!
AND HE'S SO INTO PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT THESE DAYS THAT HE BARELY EVEN SLEEPS, DON'T YOU THINK?
KEEPS GOING
BUT TRYING TO SNEAK OUT IS NOT GOOD!
You're getting nasty.
Hold his horses.
SO IF HE TRIES TO HOLD HIS HORSES TOO MUCH, MR. TIGER WILL COME OUT AGAIN!
THAT MIKA-CHAN'S TIGER IS REALLY AN EMBODIMENT OF HIS SUPPRESSED FEELINGS,
WE ALREADY MADE IT CLEAR

BUT IT'S TRUE THAT I DO FEEL INSECURE.
THAT'S-WHAT-I-MEAN!
IT'S ALL FOR YOUR OWN MENTAL PEACE!
UP UNTIL NOW I WAS TRYING TO SUPPRESS MY FEELINGS IN ORDER TO CONTROL THE TIGER
AND, IT TURNS OUT THAT WAS THE WORST POSSIBLE SOLUTION
IT'S GREAT THAT YOU COME HERE TO SEE KOUME EVEN WHEN YOU'RE SO BUSY!
I COULDN'T CONTROL MYSELF WELL
BUT IT'LL BE EVEN BETTER TO SPEND THE WHOLE DAY WITH HER!
A REAL DATE
I'LL PREPARE THE SUPER EXTRA-LOVEY-DOVEY TOUR FOR YOU!
WHAT DO YOU SAY?
Pat Pat
A DATE

IT'S ENTERTAINING, THE ATMOSPHERE IS FANTASTIC AND IT MAKES PEOPLE EXCITED!
AND THE BEST PLACE FOR A DATE IS THE AQUARIUM!
OH, WOW!
IT'S SO BEAUTIFUL!
DON'T YOU THINK, BOSS...
LOOK
YES, REALLY.
BOSS LOOK, BOSS, DOESN'T THIS FISH LOOK DELICIOUS?
Delicious?
HEARTBEAT!

-Rendezvous with Barairo-

Kotarou-chan's extra-lovey-dovey setting tour! (Kotarou-chan speaking)

This has become a real trial for Koume-chan, but we shouldn't let her shaking get in the way!

If this wasn't titled a "date" then Koume-chan would've probably been fluttering all over the place.

Mika-chan has had many other occasions to escort women, so he can choose a course all by himself. But if I let him do it he'll chose something too adult-like!

And Kotarou-chan here is used to meeting all sorts of tastes!

I'M NOT MYSELF TODAY!
I FEEL SO TERRIBLY AWKWARD!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TWO DOING?! BY NOW, YOU SHOULD'VE BEEN SO MUCH CLOSER TO EACH OTHER!
OH, MY, WHAT A MEETING! IF IT ISN'T MR TOMO-NAGA

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR COMING HERE!
I'M THE MANAGER OF THE PLACE, SUGITA!
WE'RE JUST DROPPING BY
IS HE YOUR FRIEND?
THIS AQUARIUM IS UNDER THE MANAGEMENT OF TOMONAGA GROUP.
SO YOU'RE HERE PRIVATE-LY?
YES
IF YOU'D LIKE, I'D BE DELIGHTED TO GIVE YOU A TOUR.
NO NEED...
AH... WHY NOT, SOUNDS GOOD!
I'M SURE HE CAN TELL US MANY INTERESTING THINGS!
Wrong you dummy! You have to be all alone with him
.....

IF YOU INSIST...
OUR AQUARIUM TAKES PRIDE IN THE VARIETY OF SPECIES FROM ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD, EXHIBITED IN...
WELL,
I GUESS THIS IS TURNING OUT TO BE A STRANGE DATE
BUT SOMEHOW EVEN IF WE'RE ALONE, WE DON'T FEEL LIKE A COUPLE AT ALL
HE'S ABSOLUTELY DIFFERENT FROM THE TYPE I'VE DATED UP UNTIL NOW
Please excuse me for a minute
OK, let's date!
Let's date.
Friends with the same age.

MANA-GER!
MANA-GER!
AH, YOU ARE MR. KAZA-MORI
ARE YOU MR. TOMO-NAGA'S ESCORT?
AH, WELL, ANYWAY,
COME HERE FOR A SEC!
LOOK!
NO-THING!
THE MANAGER'S TAKING LONG...
WHAT IS IT?

MAYBE IT'S JUST THE ATMOSPHERE IN THIS PLACE!
I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE I CAN'T EVEN THINK OF THE FISHES!
BOSS, WHY DON'T WE GO OUT?
BUT WE HAVEN'T SEEN EVERYTHING YET
IT'S FINE!
I GUESS IT WILL BE A LONG WHILE BEFORE THE SUN SETS
SO IT SEEMS
I dragged him out too early
LET'S GO THERE NEXT!
WHEN YOU'RE FULL OF ROMANTIC FEELINGS FROM FROM THE AQUARIUM, GO TO THE NEAREST PARK TO ENJOY THE SUNSET!

AW, DAMN IT
WE'RE ALL ALONE NOW, WHAT TO DO?
TAP TAP TAP
TAP
TAP
BUT WE CAN JUST TAKE OUR TIME IN THE PARK, RIGHT?
RRR
Of course she shouldn't worry about it!!
YES, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
BEEP!
IS IT OK TO REFUSE THE CALL LIKE THAT?
.....

HOLD ON, BOSS!
BEEN OFF
PI PI PI PI PI PI PI PI
BUT PLEASE, ANSWER IT!
I'LL BE RIGHT HERE.
I KNOW IT MUST BE A DRAG TO ANSWER YOUR PHONE EVEN ON A DAY OFF ..
YOU'RE VERY BUSY WITH WORK RIGHT NOW, AREN'T YOU?
I KNOW THINGS ARE CHAOTIC WITH HIS WORK RIGHT NOW, BUT
SHOUJI-SAN, I'LL GET YOU FOR THIS!
SHOUJI-SAN FROM THE OFFICE
SNAP
I APOLO-GIZE...

SPLASH
SPLASH
Ahh!
Haha!
See you again!
Bye-bye!

IS HE ASLEEP?!
DOOM
And I thought he was just staring at her in dismay or something!
I GUESS IT'S ONLY NATURAL HE'S VERY BUSY
AND WE MADE HIM FREE A WHOLE DAY FROM WORK!
BUT HE LOOKS CUTE WHEN HE'S ASLEEP!
It's something of a surprise...

WHEN HE LOOKS AT ME, I HAVE NO IDEA HOW TO ACT...
That's a good thing!
NOW I DON'T HAVE TO PANIC THAT WE'RE ALL ALONE WITH HIM...
I HAD NO IDEA THAT
MY HEART COULD BEAT SO QUICKLY JUST BECAUSE THE PERSON I LOVE IS LOOKING AT ME
I GUESS I'M VERY BORING LIKE THIS
I HOPE HE DOESN'T FALL OUT OF LOVE
Yawn
MUNCH
IT'LL BE A WHILE BEFORE THE BOSS WAKES UP, SO

...HN
...KUN..
MAKI-BA-KUN
I'LL DO MY BEST
YOU'LL HAVE TO WAKE UP, NOW IT'S GETTING CHILLY
!!
NO WAY! I FELL ASLEEP? ME?
WHAT?!
AND IT'S ALREADY DARK?!
MAN!!! BOSS, I WRINKLED YOUR SUIT!

I'M SORRY BOSS...
HOW COULD I HOW COULD I?!
IT'S TRUE THAT I COULDN'T SLEEP TONIGHT, BUT
BUT FALLING ASLEEP ON A DATE!!
I'm the type that can fall asleep anywhere
NO, I FELL ASLEEP FOR A WHILE MYSELF. I WAS ABLE TO GET SOME REST ..
BOSS
BUT WE HAVE TO GO NOW, OR WE'LL BE LATE FOR THE DINNER.
LET'S GO.
AND I COULDN'T GET ENOUGH OF YOUR SLEEPING FACE!
You changed so many expressions while you were asleep!

I TOTALLY MESSED UP THAT WASN'T ANYTHING LIKE A DATE AT ALL
I HOPE AT LEAST THE DINNER GOES WELL
BLUSH
Oh, my I'm blushing!
AH, AREN'T YOU MIKAGE-KUN!
WHAT A SURPRISE TO MEET YOU HERE!
AH!
I'VE SEEN THIS MAN ON TV!
SOME PARLIA-MENTA-RIAN
ISO-KAWA-SAN!

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THE OTHER DAY
AH, YOU'RE WELCOME! DID YOU COME HERE TO HAVE DINNER?
I'M HERE WITH MY DAUGHTER, SO HOW ABOUT JOINING US?
What?!
NO
Thump
I'M AFRAID CIRCUMSTANCES DON'T ALLOW IT
IT'S A GREAT IDEA, VICE-PRESIDENT!
DINNER WITH A LARGE PARTY IS MUCH MORE ENTERTAINING!
HERE I GO AGAIN!
NO, YOU WON'T!
Shock

EH AH! YOU ARE MR. KAZAMORI'S SON
GOOD EVENING, ISOKAWA-SAN! LONG TIME NO SEE, ISN'T IT?
YES! AND I'M VERY GLAD I MET YOU IN SUCH A PLACE!
DINNER WITH A LARGE PARTY IS MUCH MORE ENTERTAINING, DON'T YOU THINK?
SO LET'S CALL MY DAD, TOO. HE SAID HE WANTED TO MEET YOU SOMETIME ANYWAY!
AH, AND MIKAGE MAY (OR MAY NOT) COME JOIN US LATER! NOW, LET'S GO, PLEASE, JUST GO!
KO-TAROU-CHAN?!
WHERE DID HE COME OUT FROM, THIS KOTAROU-CHAN!
.....
STAMPEDE
Was that really Kotarou-chan?

LET'S LEAVE..
CAN I LET IT END THIS WAY?!
CAN I LET HIM STAY TRAPPED IN HIS OWN FEELINGS
AND KEEP LIVING IN FEAR FOREVER?
WHAT AM I DOING?
BEFORE I TAKE A WRONG STEP, I MUST !
LET'S GO TO A HOTEL!

I JUST TOOK THE WRONG STEP!!!
OUCH
NONSENSE
SIGH
TURN
MAKIBA-KUN?!
YES. THAT'S RIGHT.
NON-SENSE
SQUEEZE

Sho
ck
AH, SORRY...
HEY, STOP! YOU'RE DISTURBING THE PUBLIC ORDER..
OUCH- OUCH- OUCH- OUCH- OUCH!
THAT HURT!
IDIOT! IDIOT! IDIOT!
I'M SUCH AN IDIOT!
I'M NASTY!
I ACTED LIKE A SLUT!
I'M TOO EMBA- RRASSED TO EVEN LOOK AT HIM!
HEY, HEY, ARE YOU OK?
YOU KNOW, YOU MIGHT HAVE BROKEN HIS BONES! HOW DO YOU MAKE UP FOR THAT? HEY!

WAAAH! AND TO TOP IT ALL, THIS HAD TO HAPPEN
I'M THE WORST
GRAB
AHH!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!
NOTHING BROKEN HERE
AND NO WOUNDS
NO PROBLEM AT ALL
NOW IF YOU'LL EXCUSE US
That was a quick recovery
YOU...
NOT SO FAST, YOU!!!
THRU
?!
GRAB
WAAAH!
DON'T MESS WITH US!

FLIP
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, BASTARD!
OH, JUST LET THEM GO ALREADY!
I'VE HAD ENOUGH PESTS TO DEAL WITH FOR ONE DAY!
KO-TAROU-CHAN!
COME!
EH? BUT...
HE'LL BE JUST FINE.
BOSS!
STOP
WAIT, YOU TWO!

WAAHH
SLAM
HOW COULD YOU OVERLOOK THIS ONE, KOTAROU?
AH, I KNOW YOU COULD HANDLE HIM ANYTIME
THAT'S THE SAME AS OVERLOOKING HIM.
ANYWAY, THEY'RE JUST BRATS. GO EASY ON THEM.
MAYBE...

YOU SEE, I HAD A VERY ROUGH DAY TODAY, SO I'M EXTREMELY PISSED OFF RIGHT ABOUT NOW.
NOW WE CAN CALM DOWN AND TALK THS OVER.
EH... THANK YOU VERY MUCH ..
YOU... YOU'RE VERY STRONG!
KOTAROU-CHAN TOO, OF COURSE, BUT...
I WAS VERY SUR-PRISED.

AND YOU...
NO MATTER HOW STRONG YOUR HEART MAY BE, YOU'RE STILL A WOMAN
YOUR BODY IS WEAK SO STOP ACTING SO RECKLESSLY LIKE YOU DO JUST NOW
KOTAROU IS MY BODY-GUARD, AMONG OTHER THINGS.
HE TRAINS VERY HARD
I'VE BEEN TRAINED TO PROTECT MYSELF
I TOOK UP MARTIAL ARTS AS A CHILD BECAUSE THEY ARE ALSO GOOD FOR MENTAL DISCIPLINE
YES...I'M SORRY
LET'S GO TO A HOTEL!
AH! THAT WAS...
AND ANOTHER THING!
WHAT?

THERE'S NO NEED TO PUSH YOURSELF TRYING TO PREDICT MY WISHES
YOU WERE DOING THIS THE WHOLE DAY TODAY
PEOPLE WERE LOOKING AT US, AT THE WOMAN WHO WAS WITH ME
AND THE PEOPLE FROM WORK WERE CALLING ALL THE TIME
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT I COULDN'T RELAX AND ENJOY MYSELF MORE
NO!
NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I WAS WORRIED ABOUT!
I WAS ACTING WEIRD AND I WAS EMBARRASSED!
BEING ALONE WITH YOU...!
I WAS EMBARRASSED
WHY?
UM... THAT IS... ISN'T IT CLEAR WHY...

EH?
BECAUSE I LOVE YOU!
I LOVE YOU, BOSS!
WHEN OTHER PEOPLE LOOK AT ME, NO MATTER WHO,
I DON'T FEEL A THING
BUT WHEN YOU LOOK AT ME,
MY HEART STARTS TO BEAT FASTER.
EVEN THOUGH I'M HAPPY TO BE BY YOUR SIDE,
I'M ALSO EMBARRA-SSED
AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO
AND NOW?
EH?

NOW WE'RE ALL ALONE.
NOW WE

BUT...
I'M HAPPY!
MY HEARTS' BEATING SO FAST, IT MIGHT BURST..
WAAAH!!
OUCH, OUCH, OUCH!
MR. TIGER?! WHY?!

I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING NAUGHTY IF MY PARTNER WAS ASLEEP...
Naughty
Blush
WHEN I WAS WATCHING YOU SLEEP.
AFTER-NOON?
I COULD BARELY KEEP HIM AWAY THIS AFTER-NOON...
I'M SORRY...
ENOUGH TO MAKE THE TIGER APPEAR.
MINE, TOO.
YOUR HEART ISN'T THE ONLY ONE BEATING FASTER.
PEEK
CHUCKLE
SO, YOU'RE THE BIG INTRUDER OF THE DAY, RIGHT?

NO
HE'S MY LAST FORTRESS, MAKING SURE I WON'T GIVE IN...
TO YOUR ALLURING SELF.
What? Are you saying that I was the slowest first?!
But then again, were we really alone if this stalker Kotarou-chan was watching all the time?

<CHAPTER 6 RENDEZVOUS WITH SARAIRO? "THE END"

Mika-chan's face doesn't change much. The main character in my last book was like that, too. His manners and so on were a different story, but he certainly didn't change his expressions much. (He was just grinning from time to time. But just imagine a wolf-man with a constantly changing face!) And it's very difficult when you have to draw such a character with a face expressing any strong emotion!

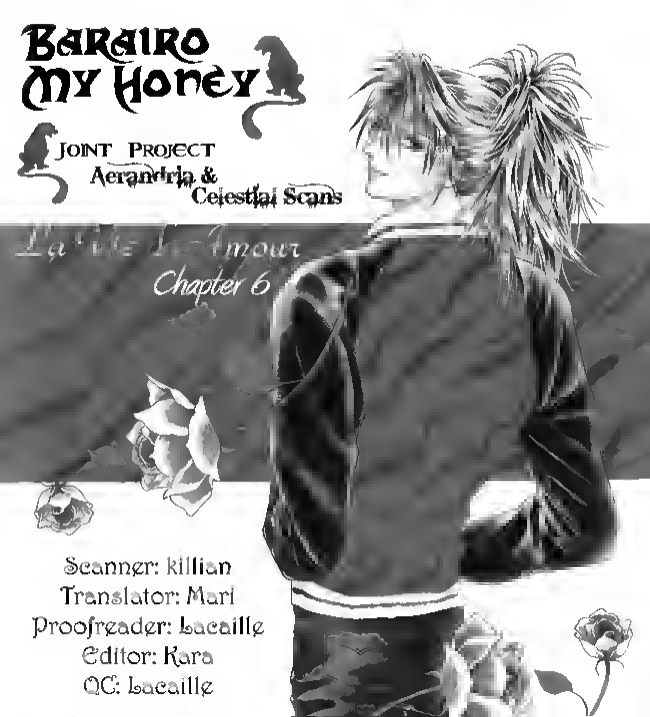
So smile! Smile more, Mika!

A cut from chapter 1.
The Thorns of the Rose. ▶

Barairo My Honey

JOINT PROJECT
Aerandria & Celestial Scans

La Vie L'Amour
Chapter 6



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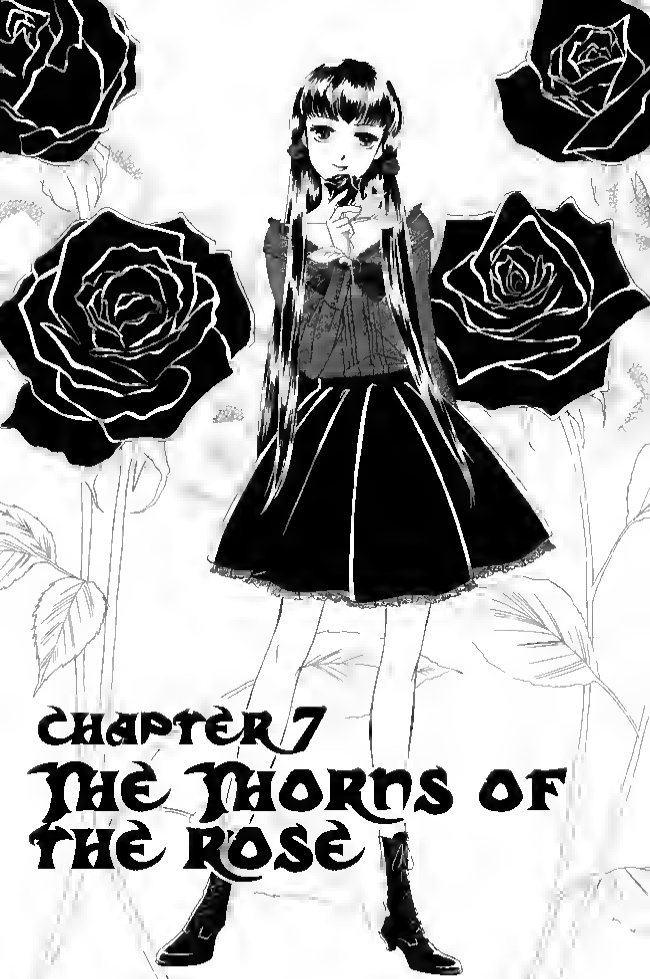


CHAPTER 7
THE THORNS OF THE ROSE

STATUS R
HEY...
WAH!
YOU!
WHAT IS IT NOW?
ANOTHER QUARREL?

BUT THAT WAS PARTIALLY YOUR FAULT, TOO.
I really can't see it...
Eh!
JUST BECAUSE I MADE A CAKE AND BROUGHT IT TO WORK?
IT'S THE BOSS AGAIN, HE LET MR. TIGER OUT!
I'M SORRY...
OR YOU MEAN THAT I SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE IT?
THAT'S NOT IT...
AND I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE GOOD FOR YOU TO HAVE SOME OF YOUR FAVORITE SWEETS WHEN YOU FINALLY CAME TO VISIT.
BUT BOSS, YOU'RE VERY BUSY THESE DAYS AND YOU'RE ALWAYS AT THE MAIN OFFICES

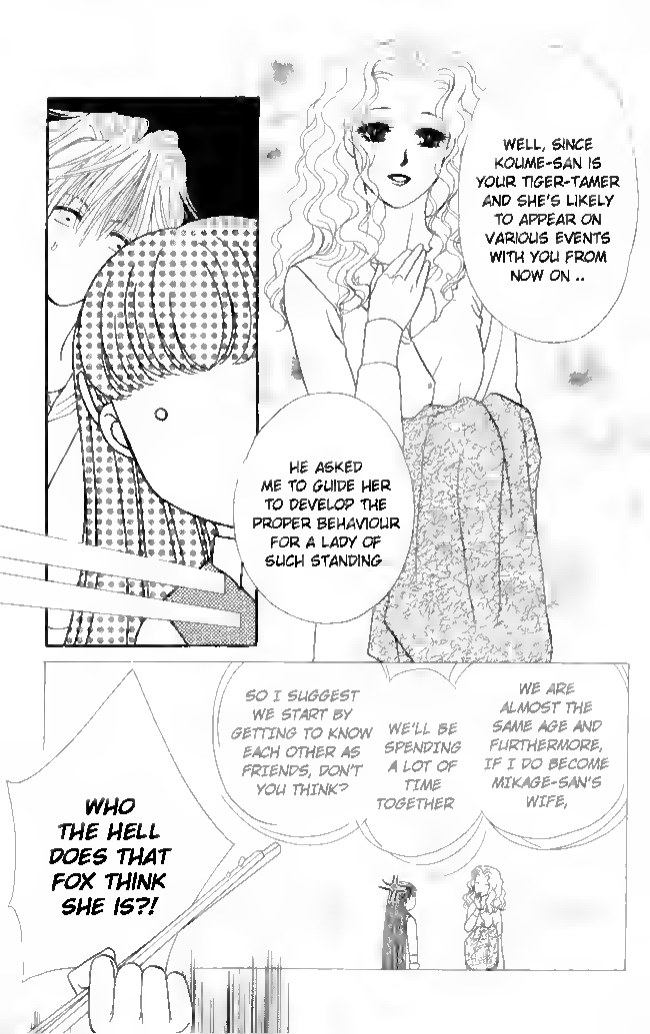
IT'S THE TRUTH
HOW CAN YOU SAY SUCH A THING WITH A STRAIGHT FACE?
ENOUGH SWEETNESS FOR TODAY!
IT'S BECAUSE YOU MADE THAT THE TIGER ACT THIS WAY.
AND IF HE DOESN'T STAY PUT, HE MIGHT CAUSE TROUBLE.
HE IS THE HEIR OF THE TOMONAGA GROUP
AND ALSO, THE EMOTIONS HE SUPRESSES WITHIN HIM CAN CAUSE A TIGER TO APPEAR
HE IS A "TIGER-MASTER" AND MY BOSS
AND SO, IT'S BEEN TWO MONTHS SINCE THE BOSS AND I WENT ON A DATE
TURNED OUT TO BE A "TIGER-TAMER" MY DUTY IS TO MAKE THE TIGER DISAPPEAR
AND I, WHO ALWAYS THOUGHT OF MYSELF AS A COMMON PERSON,
Have a bite and Mr Tiger will go away!

BUT HE IS BUSY AND HE HAS HIS WORK IN THE MAIN OFFICES AND THE MANAGEMENT OF THIS PLACE, THE YAYOI-PRINTING HOUSE, SO WE CAN'T GO ON MANY DATES
BUT I THINK IT'S ALL GOING SMOOTHLY, CONSIDERING OUR CIRCUMSTANCES
THERE'S A VISITOR HERE TO SEE THE PRESIDENT. I THINK IT'S AN ACQUAINTANCE.
EXCUSE ME! ARE YOU BUSY?
NICE TO SEE YOU IN SUCH HIGH SPIRITS, MIKAGE-SAN
KANAKO-SAN..
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
NICE TO SEE YOU, TOO, KOTAROU-SAN. ACCOMPANYING MIKAGE, AS USUAL?

AND YOU KNEW TH T I MIGHT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO HELP YOU SOMEHOW...
THIS WOMAN
NO NEED TO CONCERN YOURSELF WITH THIS.
OF COURSE THERE IS! I AM CONCERNED!
HOW CAN YOU EVEN ASK ME SOMETHING LIKE THIS? OH, WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME ANYTHING ABOUT ALL THIS?
YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME YOU WERE A TIGER-MASTER!
AFTER ALL, I'M YOUR FIANCÉE!

I REALLY DO—
KANAKO-SAN..
BUT I ALSO THINK IT'S THE BEST SOLUTION FOR EVERYONE
THAT'S ONLY WHAT OUR PARENTS THINK
FIANCÉE?!
AND THIS IS KANAKO ISOKAWA-SAN. DAUGHTER OF CONGRESSMAN ISOKAWA-SAN.
EMPLOYEE?
AND THAT'S ALL?
SMILE
HELLO?
THIS IS.
MAKIBA KOUME-KUN.
MY EMPLOYEE.

AH, YOU ARE THE TIGER-TAMER KOUME-SAN?
I REALLY ENVY YOU! YOU DO SUCH A GREAT JOB SUPPORTING MIKAGE-SAN!
THAT'S SOMETHING EVEN THE HEIR OF THE TIGER-TAMER FAMILY KOTAROU-SAN COULDN'T DO!
BUT I HEARD THAT YOU ARE DOING GREAT!
PLEASE, KEEP TAKING SUCH GOOD CARE OF MIKAGE-SAN IN THE FUTURE, TOO!
BUT THERE'S SOMETHING MORE I CAME HERE FOR.
MIKAGE-SAN, THE ESTEEMED HEAD OF YOUR FAMILY ASKED A FAVOR OF ME...
GRAND-FATHER ASKED YOU A FAVOR?


WELL, SINCE KOUME-SAN IS YOUR TIGER-TAMER AND SHE'S LIKELY TO APPEAR ON VARIOUS EVENTS WITH YOU FROM NOW ON ..
HE ASKED ME TO GUIDE HER TO DEVELOP THE PROPER BEHAVIOUR FOR A LADY OF SUCH STANDING
SO I SUGGEST WE START BY GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER AS FRIENDS, DON'T YOU THINK?
WE'LL BE SPENDING A LOT OF TIME TOGETHER
WE ARE ALMOST THE SAME AGE AND FURTHERMORE, IF I DO BECOME MIKAGE-SAN'S WIFE,
WHO THE HELL DOES THAT FOX THINK SHE IS?!

Let's go home together!
AND THEN HE TOOK HER HOME LIKE THE BEST OF FRIENDS!
FIRST HE SAID IT WAS SOMETHING THEIR PARENTS ARRANGED,
AND WHAT WAS THE BOSS THINKING ANYWAY?!
WELL, I'M SORRY FOR NOT BEING BORN WITH THE "PROPER BEHAVIOUR FOR A LADY OF SUCH STANDING!!!"
AND HELL IF I "GET TO KNOW AS A FRIEND" MY BOYFRIEND'S OWN FIANCÉE!
EH.. FIANCÉE OR NO FIANCÉE..
WE WERE ALL FROM OLD, "GOOD" FAMILIES AND ABOUT THE SAME AGE, TOO.
SHE'S A CHILD-HOOD FRIEND TO BOTH MIKAGE AND ME
AND I DON'T THINK SHE WAS EVER SERIOUS ABOUT IT, EITHER
BUT NOW MIKA-CHAN HAS YOU
EVERYONE ALWAYS THOUGHT THEY WOULD MAKE A PERFECT COUPLE
AND ABOUT THOSE TWO ..

BUT HE DIDN'T CALL ME HIS LOVER!
DO YOU REALLY CONSIDER MIKA-CHAN THE KIND OF GUY WHO WOULD TWO-TIME?
BUT .. HE DIDN'T TELL HER I WAS HIS GIRLFRIEND..
WELL...
HE, WHO TELLS ONLY THE TRUTH, NO MATTER WHAT?!
WHY DOES HE WANT TO KEEP ME A SECRET?!
WHY DIDN'T HE?!
I THINK THAT I DON'T UNDER-STAND!
HOW DO YOU THINK?

I'M SORRY THAT YOU HAD TO COME ALL THE WAY HOME WITH ME...
You're welcome!
THANKS
BOSS...
I HAD NO IDEA WHERE YOU HAD GONE SO I HAD TO WAIT FOR YOU HERE
STARE
SMILE
I WENT TO THE PRINTING-HOUSE FIRST BUT YOU HAD ALREADY LEFT

I'M SORRY I DIDN'T SAY A WORD TO HER ABOUT US
BUT SINCE THE MOMENT I MET YOU, THERE WAS NO LONGER ANY CHANCE FOR HER
WHAT FOR?
THEN WHY DIDN'T YOU INTRODUCE ME PROPERLY?
IF SHE OR OUR FAMILIES HEARD THAT I HAVE SOMEONE, THERE WOULD BE GREAT CHAOS. I DON'T NEED THAT.
AND IT'S NOT THAT WE'VE EVER DISCUSSED MARRIAGE WITH YOU.

YOU SHOULDN'T CONCERN YOURSELF...
WITH THE PROBLEMS OF THE TOMONAGA FAMILY.
THEN...
YOU'RE TRYING TO KEEP QUIET ABOUT ME.
AND WHEN YOU GET BORED OF ME, YOU'LL JUST CONVENIENTLY FALL BACK INTO THE WAY YOU WERE BEFORE WE MET!
JUST AS YOU KEEP QUIET ABOUT YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THAT WOMAN, SO THAT YOU CAN TAKE ADVANTAGE OF HER WHEN YOU FEEL LIKE IT!
SHE'S JUST LIKE ME...
BOTH HER AND ME...
YOU ADMIT THAT YOU HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH US WHEN YOU FEEL LIKE PLAYING WITH US!

SL
AM
NO NEED TO
CONCERN YOURSELF WITH THIS
FOR HIM, SHE AND I ARE THE SAME.
I'M JUST SOMEONE HE FEELS LIKE PLAYING WITH NOW. TOMORROW, HE'LL FEEL LIKE PLAYING WITH HER.
AND I HAD NEVER EVEN THOUGHT OF MARRIAGE BEFORE!
AND HE CONCLUDED THAT I'M NOT THE TYPE HE'D MARRY.
BASICALLY, HE TOLD ME A RELATIONSHIP LIKE THIS CAN NEVER END IN ANYTHING SERIOUS.

YOU'RE THE WORST, BOSS!!
Tap
Tap
Tap
MIKA-CHAN,
I JUST THINK YOU DIDN'T FIND THE RIGHT WORDS.
YOU HAVE TO TELL HER EVERYTHING PROPERLY.
TELL HER THAT YOU DON'T WANT TO LET YOUR FAMILY CAUSE HER TROUBLE AND PESTER HER.
AND THE FACT THAT KANAKO-SAN SUDDENLY GOT IN THE ACT
ISN'T THIS A MEASURE THE TOMONAGA FAMILY TOOK AGAINST THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN YOU AND KOUME,
WHICH IS GETTING VERY CLOSE LATELY?
KOUME-CHAN'S POSITION IN THIS IS VERY DELICATE AFTER ALL

-The Thorns of the Rose-

It takes only a glance to see that the sweets Koume-chan can make are real home-made sweets! They're delicious, but simple. They're the kind of sweets that are easy to make and only require simple products.

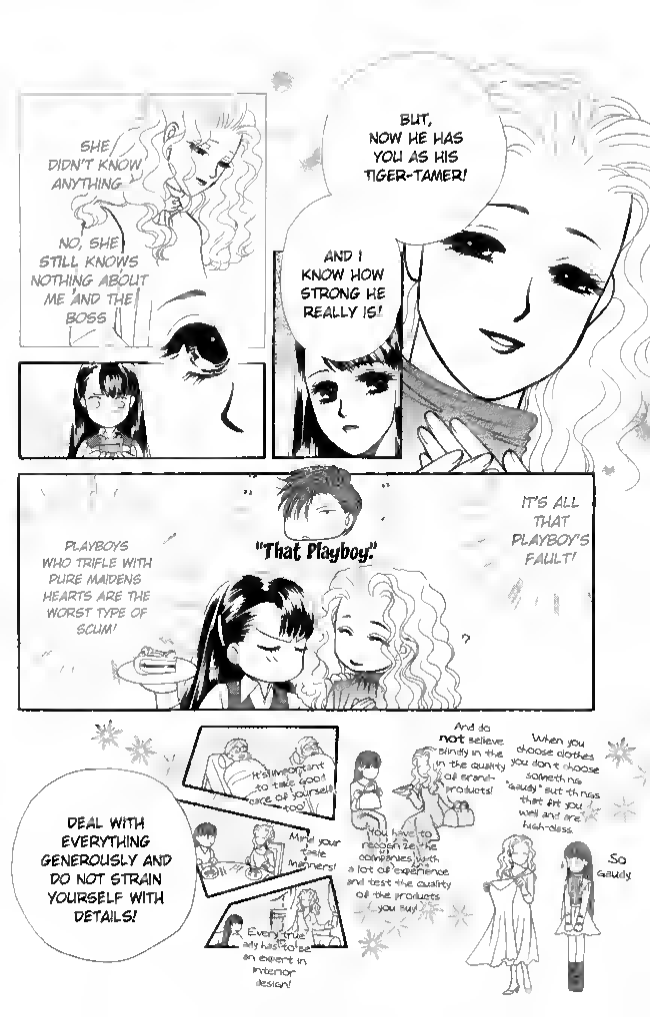
Kanako-san's sweets are very elaborate and classic-styled! They're the type of dish you'd serve only on special occasions. Not that Koume-chan couldn't make such sweets if she tried, but I think that because she makes them to eat and not to show off with, them she prefers something simple, but tasty.

The type of cake Oomi here would like to dig into!

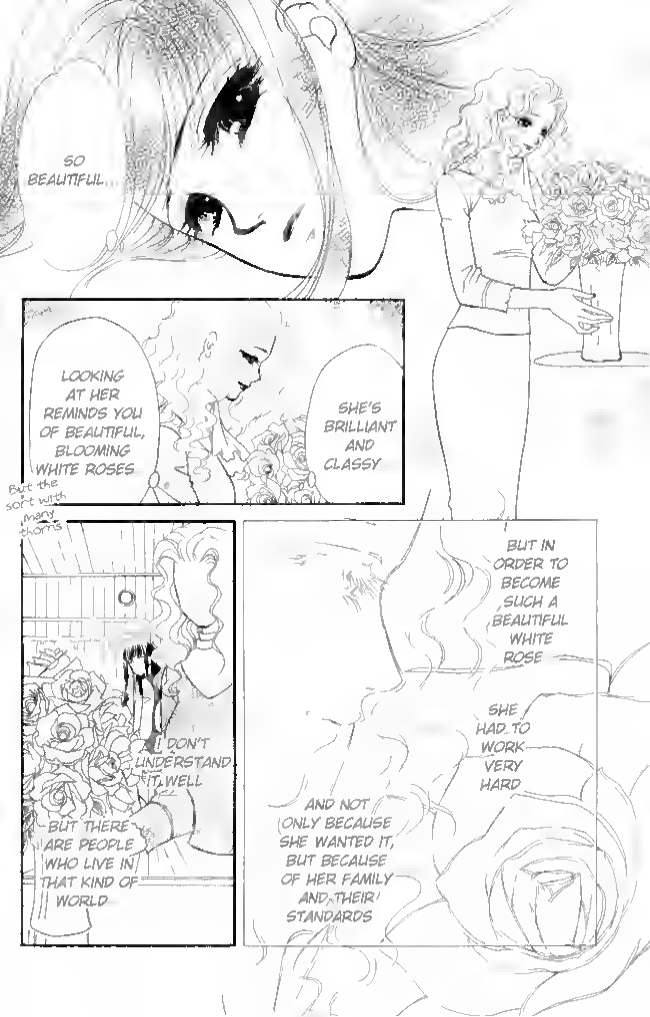
It's something in between the type of cake Koume-chan and Kanako-san would make!

I THOUGHT I'D BRING THIS FOR EVERYONE AT THE COMPANY TO ENJOY—
WAAAH!
SO SHE CAME
HOW DO YOU DO?
Absolutely different from mine...
Amazing!
MISS, DID YOU MAKE THIS ALL BY YOURSELF?
IT'S NOTHING MUCH, BUT I'LL BE GLAD IF YOU TRY IT...
CLANK
KOUME-SAN, PLEASE, HAVE SOME
EH... WELL...
YOU CAN ALWAYS TELL WHETHER A WOMAN IS A REAL LADY WHEN YOU LOOK AT THE TYPE OF SWEETS SHE CAN PREPARE
DON'T YOU AGREE, KOUME-SAN?

I HEARD THAT YOU ARE THE BOSS'S CHILDHOOD FRIEND...
YES, WE OFTEN PLAYED TOGETHER WHEN WE WERE CHILDREN!
!!!
REALLY? ME TOO!
I'M ON A DIET..
WATCHING OUT FOR HER FIGURE IS A DUTY FOR EVERY REAL LADY!
There's why it's a low-calorie cake!
SO IT WAS SOMETHING OF A SHOCK WHEN I HEARD THAT MIKAGE-SAN IS A REAL TIGER-MASTER
I'VE HEARD ABOUT THE RUMORS OF THE TOMONAGA TIGER A LONG TIME AGO, BUT I THOUGHT THEY WERE JUST A LEGEND...
I'M SURE THAT HE HAS ALWAYS BEEN SUFFERING ABOUT IT. I'M SO SORRY FOR HIM...
I'VE ALWAYS TOLD HIM HOW MUCH I ADORE HIM..
EVER SINCE THEN, HE'S BEEN MY PRINCE IN SHINING ARMOR!


SHE DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING
NO, SHE STILL KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT ME AND THE BOSS
BUT, NOW HE HAS YOU AS HIS TIGER-TAMER!
AND I KNOW HOW STRONG HE REALLY IS!
PLAYBOYS WHO TRIFLE WITH PURE MAIDENS HEARTS ARE THE WORST TYPE OF SCUM!
"That Playboy."
IT'S ALL THAT PLAYBOY'S FAULT!
DEAL WITH EVERYTHING GENEROUSLY AND DO NOT STRAIN YOURSELF WITH DETAILS!
It's important to take good care of yourself, too!
Mind your time manners!
Every true lady has to be an expert in interior design!
You have to reconsider the colleagues with a lot of experience and test the quality of the products you buy!
And do not believe blindly in the quality of brand-products!
When you choose clothes you don't choose something "gaudy" but th ings that fit you well and are tasteless.
So gaudy

You must be able to converse freely about all sorts of topics!
YOU HAVE TO MEMORIZE ALL THE INFORMATION YOU CAN FIND ABOUT THE OTHER PERSON, HIS WORK, FAMILY, AND SO ON.
THE WAY YOU BOND WITH OTHER PEOPLE IS VERY IMPORTANT.
Flower-arranging
THE SAME GOES FOR YOUR MANNERS
CASUALLY MAKE SURE THAT EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU IS PERFECT, BECAUSE PEOPLE WILL JUDGE YOU BY THAT.
Walk in a kimono!
Tea ceremony
A NIGHTMARE...
BEING A LADY IS...


SO BEAUTIFUL...
LOOKING AT HER REMINDS YOU OF BEAUTIFUL, BLOOMING WHITE ROSES
SHE'S BRILLIANT AND CLASSY
But the sort with many thorns
I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT WELL
BUT THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN THAT KIND OF WORLD
BUT IN ORDER TO BECOME SUCH A BEAUTIFUL WHITE ROSE
SHE HAD TO WORK VERY HARD
AND NOT ONLY BECAUSE SHE WANTED IT, BUT BECAUSE OF HER FAMILY AND THEIR STANDARDS

SO MAYBE HE WAS RIGHT
LIFT
EVEN THE BOSS
YES, IN THE WORLD HE LIVES IN...
HIS FAMILY HIS COMPANY
HE HAS MANY THINGS TO BURDEN HIM
THERE ARE MANY THINGS HE HAS TO PROTECT
SOMEDAY, HE'LL HAVE TO MARRY SOMEONE LIKE KANAKO-SAN SOMEONE LIKE ME WON'T DO AT ALL
EVEN IF HE DOES LIKE ME NOW
IT S
VERY HARD, NOW THAT I LOVE HIM SO MUCH
I WONDER IF I'LL BE ABLE TO SMILE AND CONGRATU- LATE THEM...
I WONDER IF EVEN THEN I'LL BE BY HIS SIDE AS A TIGER TAMER...

I DON'T WANT TO BE IN LOVE WITH HIM ANYMORE!
I WANT TO QUIT!
YES, I FEEL THAT
I'VE REALLY FALLEN VERY DEEPLY IN LOVE WITH HIM
VERY DEEPLY
DROP
DROP
DROP
DROP
DROP
DROP
KOUME-SAN?!
I'VE HAD ENOUGH!!

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
PLEASE!
KANAKO-SAN, PLEASE MAKE HIM VERY HAPPY!
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS?

BUT... BOSS...
I...
YOU DON'T NEED SOMEONE LIKE ME!
SOONER OR LATER YOU'LL HAVE TO CHOOSE SOMEONE ELSE, SOMEONE... NOT LIKE ME!
BUT I KNOW I WON'T BE ABLE TO TAKE IT!
THAT'S WHY I HAVE TO QUIT WHILE I STILL CAN!
I HAVE TO STOP BEING IN LOVE WITH YOU..!

SFX: ROOOOOOAAAAAAAR
AHHH!
SFX: ROOOAAARR

WHAT WAS THAT?
GYYE...
MR TIGER...
QUIT WHILE YOU STILL CAN..?
HUFF
YOU MEAN THAT IF YOU QUIT NOW, YOU WON'T HURT?
CAN YOU REALLY QUIT NOW?
SLAM

YOU ARE A TIGER-TAMER.
IF THE WORD SPREADS THAT YOU ARE MY LOVER,
IT WILL DESTROY ALL EXPECTATIONS OF THE TOMONAGA, KAZAMORI, ISOKAWA, AND GOD KNOWS WHO ELSE!
THEY'LL DO ANYTHING TO TEAR US APART AND THERE WILL BE THOSE WHO WILL SPREAD RUMORS ABOUT YOU AND HUMILIATE YOU!
BECAUSE I CAN'T.
REMEMBER THE WAY MY FATHER LOST HIS BELOVED WOMAN BEFORE MY FAMILY'S PRESSURE
BEFORE WE MAKE ANY ANNOUCEMENT YOU MUST BE IN A MORE SECURE POSITION
WHILE YOU ARE IN POSITION AS MY LOVER, MY POWER TO PROTECT YOU IS VERY LIMITED

THE ONLY THING THAT PREVENTS YOU FROM SHARING THAT FATE IS THE FACT THAT YOU'RE A TIGER-TAMER.
THE BEST SOLUTION WOULD'VE BEEN TO MAKE YOU MY FIANCÉE
IF YOU WANT TO RUN AWAY FROM ME...
I'M LEFT WITH NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO BIND YOU.
BUT YOU ARE STILL VERY YOUNG AND I THOUGHT BINDING YOU IN SUCH A WAY WAS OUT OF THE QUESTION,
BUT...
I'LL USE THE INFLUENCE I HAVE AT HOME AS A TIGER-MASTER.
I'LL KEEP YOU IN A CAGE IF I HAVE TO, BUT I WON'T LET YOU GO!

HO-
HO-
HO-
HO-
HO-
HO-
BOSS..
HO-
HO-
HO-
HO-
HO
MY, MY, THAT'S A SIGHT FOR SORE EYES!
IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN MIKAGE-SAN
SO DESPERATE OVER ANYTHING

KANAKO-SAN.
IT WAS FUN MATCH-MAKING THE TWO OF YOU!
Buried Treasure
I THOUGHT THAT HANDING MIKAGE-SAN TO ANYONE WOULD HAVE A BITTER TASTE,
BUT IT SEEMS HE FOUND A REAL BURIED TREASURE.
I LIKE YOU.
Toying?
Fun?
Heh.
REALLY? I DON'T REMEM-BER...
I THINK I ALREADY WARNED YOU THE OTHER DAY.
STOP TOYING WITH HER.
Kotarou-chan When did you pop here?
MAYBE IF SHE HAD ALWAYS KNOWN HE WAS A TIGER-MASTER, HE WOULDN'T HAVE SUFFERED SO MUCH.
KANAKO-SAN FEELS IT'S HER LIFE DUTY TO TEASE MIKAGE...

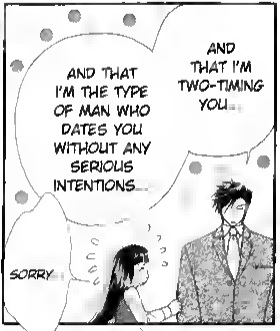
THIS IS MIKAGE-SAN!
AH, BUT IT'S PERFECTLY TRUE THAT I ADORED HIM!
THEN ALL THAT TALK ABOUT BEING IN LOVE WITH HIM...?
That's called a Shota complex, you!
HE WAS DRESSED WITH SHORT LEGS, SHORT TROUSERS, AND HIS EXPOSED ARMS AND LEGS WERE SO TENDER...
HE WAS ADORABLE EVEN WHEN HE STARTED TO GROW UP...
AND HIS FACE WHEN HE WAS TRYING TO LOOK GROWN-UP WAS SO CUTE!
I feel sorry for him.
My prince in shining armor
Please keep supporting him as a tiger-tamer!
ALL THESE THINGS MEANT...
THEN

(*NOTE: BAKENEKO MEANS "MONSTER CAT" AND IS A GIANT GHOSTLY CAT FROM JAPANESE MYTHOLOGY WHO CAN TURN INTO A HUMAN AND USE MAGIC.)

BUT MY CAT IS JUST AS SOPHISTI-CATED AS ME.
WE HAVE A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT RELATION-SHIP
HO-HO-HO-HO
THANK YOU FOR THE COMPLI-MENT!
Huge Cat
YOU DARN BAKE-NEKO!!*
HEY, MIKAGE-SAN,
IT SEEMS TO ME YOU LET YOUR TIGER BOSS YOU AROUND TOO MUCH.
YOU STILL HAVE A LOT TO LEARN!

I CAN'T DESTROY MY OWN HANDIWORK, AFTER ALL.
Kotaro-chan, would you mind escorting me?
AND DON'T WORRY, KOUME-CHAN, I'LL REPORT THAT YOU'RE JUST A TIGER-TAMER AND NOTHING MORE.
SHE'S ONE BIG THORN IN EVERYONE'S SIDE!
Have a nice day!
BEAUTIFUL WHITE ROSE, MY ASS!
AH--
THAT HOT-AIR TALK ABOUT QUITTING THAT MADE THE TIGER COME OUT--
WHAT?
SO..?

BUT... MAKING YOU THINK SO
WAS PROBABLY MY FAULT...


AND THAT I'M THE TYPE OF MAN WHO DATES YOU WITHOUT ANY SERIOUS INTENTIONS...
AND THAT I'M TWO-TIMING YOU...
SORRY...

WELL THEN,
SHALL I BRING THE CHAIN-SET TO PUT ON YOU BEFORE YOU ESCAPE?

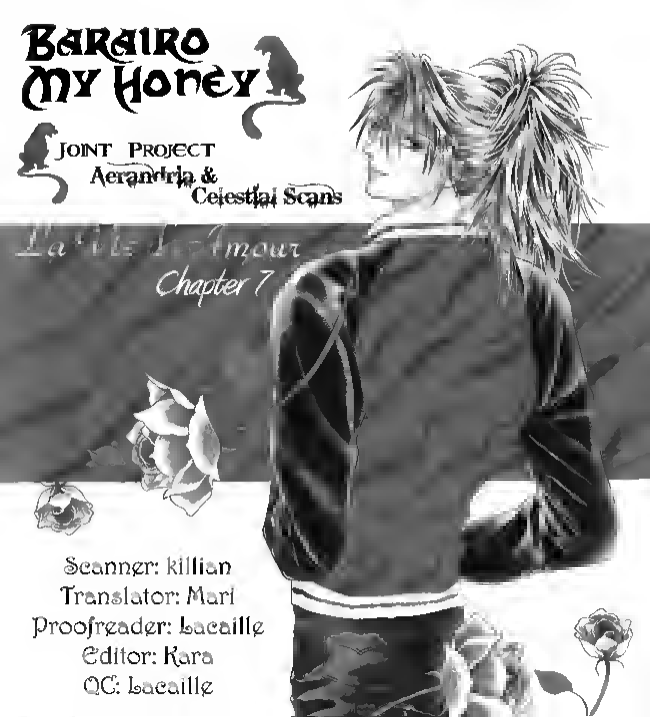
I'M SORRY!

<CHAPTER 7 THE THORNS OF THE ROSE> <THE END>

Barairo My Honey

JOINT PROJECT
Aerandria & Celestial Scans

La Vie L'Amour
Chapter 7



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Chapter 8
Below the Mistletoe

KO-U-ME!
THAT'S MY NAME!
WHEN WE'RE AT WORK, I CAN'T CALL YOU THAT.
BUT EVERYONE AT WORK CALLS ME "KOUME!"
Yes, another lovers' quarrel!
What, another lovers' quarrel?

AH...
I KNOW THAT YOU HAVE A LOT OF WORK WITH THE MAIN OFFICES AND YOU STILL FIND TIME TO MANAGE THIS PLACE, TOO...
EH... I DIDN'T MEAN TO COMPLAIN THAT YOU'RE VERY BUSY!
I KNOW THAT YOU DO IT ESPECIALLY SO YOU CAN COME SEE US!
WELL, WELL! YOU'RE THE FIRST PERSON HE'S SO COMFORTABLE WITH,
AND HE CALLS YOU "MAKIBA" EVEN IN PRIVATE?
THAT'S RIGHT!
WE BARELY EVER MEET OUTSIDE THE COMPANY, ANYWAY!
EVERYONE ELSE CALLS ME "KOUME," SO IT'S NOT FLIGHTY AT ALL.
I WANT YOU TO CALL ME BY MY NAME IN THE LITTLE TIME WE HAVE TOGETHER.
THAT'S EXACTLY WHY

!
BO...
BOSS...?
KOUME-CHAN! HOW DO YOU CALL MIKA-CHAN?
EH.
BUT, BUT, BUT...
IF I CALL MY OWN BOSS IN HIS OWN COMPANY BY HIS NAME, THAT'S TOO FLIGHTY! BUT I DO THAT ALWAYS!
AND ONCE YOU START CALLING ME BY MY NAME, YOU'LL HAVE TO DO IT EVEN IN THE COMPANY!
PRESI-DENT!
THAT'S TOO UNFAIR...
CUT IT OUT! AND WORK! THE END OF THE YEAR IS APPROACHING AND THAT'S SERIOUS BUSINESS!
I'M SORRY, BUT IT'S TIME TO DEPART.

HEY, LOOK...
WILL YOU BE BUSY THE WHOLE WEEK AGAIN?
YES, I'LL BE ON A BUSINESS TRIP IN FUKUOKA UNTIL THE END OF THE WEEK AND THEN..
AH!
I'M SORRY...
12
I'M SURE THIS YEAR WILL BE THE SAME!
NO, NO! WE'LL ALL PROBABLY BE BURIED IN WORK THEN! IT'S ALWAYS HECTIC AROUND HERE DURING CHRISTMAS,
I'LL CALL YOU.

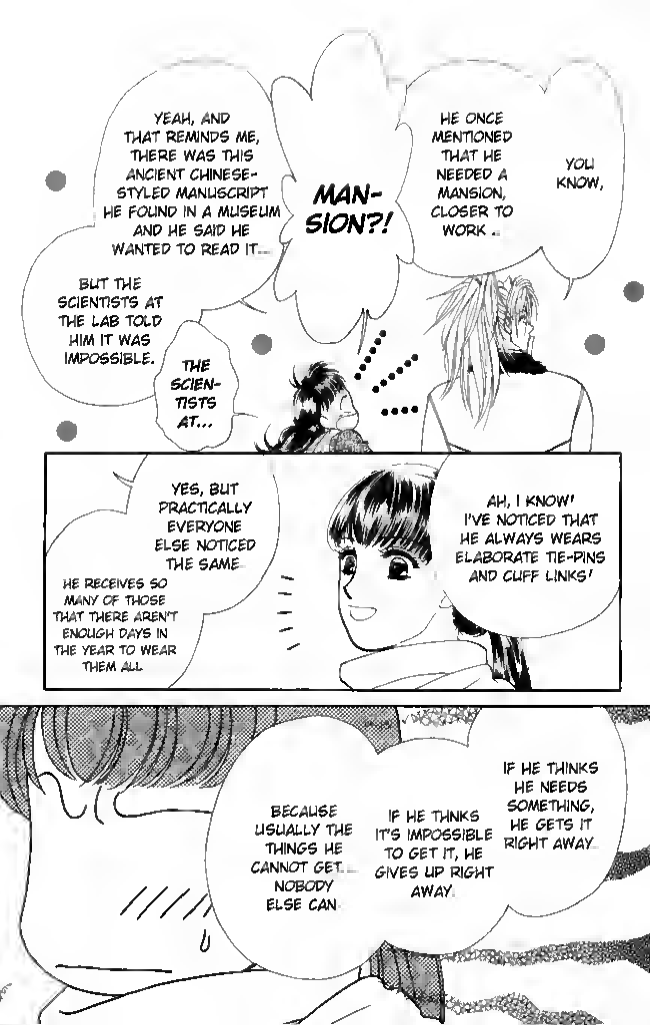
- Below the Mistletoe -

All co-workers at Koume-chan's company call her by her first name - most of them say "Koume-chan" the director - just "Koume." Maybe she's just not the type of person you'd feel like calling by her family name.

By the way, people call me "Oomi" so I guess I'm the type of person you'd call by her family name. That's actually a nickname derived from my real family name, but for some reason now even my real family calls me so. It's a mystery to me why.

THANKS FOR WALKING ME HOME, KOTAROU-CHAN!
DID THE BOSS ASK YOU?
EVER SINCE I STARTED GOING HOME LATE, THIS BECAME LIKE A PART-TIME JOB TO YOU.
AH, WELL...

I'VE BEEN WALKING YOU HOME FOR A WHILE NOW. EVERY DAY IT'S MORE EVIDENT THAT CHRISTMAS IS APPROACHING.
YES... AND IT'S A BUSY SEASON FOR US. BUT IT'S NOT ALL WORK AND NO PLAY!
YOU KNOW, WE DECIDED TO DECORATE THE PRINTING-HOUSE!
AND I WANT TO GIVE EVERYONE PRESENTS!
Something small like sweets but anyway
KOTAROU-CHAN, WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE?
ME? MAYBE ONE KOUME-CHAN?
AND THE BOSS..
I WONDER IF HE HAS SOMETHING HE WANTS..
LET'S SEE


YEAH, AND THAT REMINDS ME, THERE WAS THIS ANCIENT CHINESE-STYLED MANUSCRIPT HE FOUND IN A MUSEUM AND HE SAID HE WANTED TO READ IT...
BUT THE SCIENTISTS AT THE LAB TOLD HIM IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE.
THE SCIEN-TISTS AT...
MAN-SION?!
HE ONCE MENTIONED THAT HE NEEDED A MANSION, CLOSER TO WORK...
YOU KNOW,
YES, BUT PRACTICALLY EVERYONE ELSE NOTICED THE SAME.
HE RECEIVES SO MANY OF THOSE THAT THERE AREN'T ENOUGH DAYS IN THE YEAR TO WEAR THEM ALL.
AH, I KNOW! I'VE NOTICED THAT HE ALWAYS WEARS ELABORATE TIE-PINS AND CUFF LINKS!
BECAUSE USUALLY THE THINGS HE CANNOT GET... NOBODY ELSE CAN.
IF HE THINKS IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO GET IT, HE GIVES UP RIGHT AWAY.
IF HE THINKS HE NEEDS SOMETHING, HE GETS IT RIGHT AWAY.

I GET IT ALREADY!! JUST TELL ME WHAT TO DO!!
EVER SINCE HE REALIZED HE WAS A TIGER-MASTER,
IT HAS BECOME HIS SECOND NATURE TO WANT ANYTHING,
NOT TO LIKE ANYTHING
BECAUSE HE WAS AFRAID THAT IF HE WERE ATTACHED TO SOMETHING, HIS EMOTIONS WOULD STIR TOO MUCH AND THE TIGER MIGHT APPEAR
AND HE KEEPS THIS UP, UNCONSCIOUSLY, EVEN AFTER HE HAS YOU AS HIS TIGER-TAMER.
AH
THE THING WE KNOW HE LIKES IS YOU, KOUME-CHAN.
SO THINK CAREFULLY.
.....

YOU'RE SLY!
SLY!!
WHY DO YOU HAVE TO MAKE THIS "I KNOW EVERYTHING" FACE AND ALWAYS GIVE ME RIDDLES!
THAT'S BECAUSE WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER FOR SO LONG.
KOTAROU-CHAN, YOU KNOW HIM BETTER THAN ANYONE ..
YOU'RE SLY!
WELL, IF I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ILL-NATURED TO ME, WOULDN'T I JUST BE INTOLERABLE?
AND ON TOP OF IT ALL, THEN MIKA-CHAN WENT AND STOLE MY PRECIOUS KOUME-CHAN FROM ME
ESPECIALLY AFTER YOU STOLE MY PRECIOUS MIKA-CHAN FROM ME

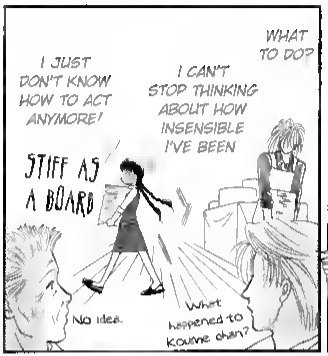
KOTAROU-CHAN...WHY DO YOU ALWAYS JOKE AROUND?
JOKE?
I'M SERIOUS.
I'VE NEVER BEEN JOKING WITH YOU.
LIFT
WHAT?
BUT...
YOU ALWAYS BACK UP THE BOSS AND... OH, I KNOW!
THAT TIME, WHEN I HAD TO BE MARRIED TO YOU BECAUSE I'M A TIGER-TAMER AND YOU'RE THE HEIR OF THE TIGER-TAMERS' FAMILY...
YOU WERE VERY PISSED OFF ABOUT IT, WEREN'T YOU!
YES, VERY. BECAUSE I DIDN'T MARRY THE KOUME-CHAN THAT I LIKED

I WAS THE HEIR OF THE TIGER-TAMERS' FAMILY, BUT I HAD NO SUCH POWERS. I FELT AS IF MY EXISTENCE DIDN'T HAVE ANY VALUE.
THE WAY THINGS ARE GOING, I'LL SACRIFICE MY WHOLE LIFE FOR MIKA-CHAN.
THE ONLE ONE WHO ALWAYS MADE ME FEEL NEEDED WAS MIKA-CHAN
YOU SEE, I COULDN'T LET YOU BECOME THE BRIDE OF SOMEONE LIKE ME
NOT THE GIRL I LIKE
NOT "MY POWER," BUT JUST "ME."
KOTAROU-CHAN
Not to mention that I'm a Kazamori after all
THAT'S WHY I DECIDED TO LIVE FOR HIM.

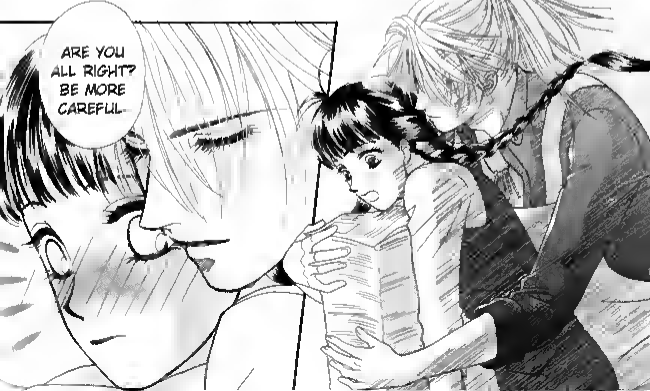
Smile
SO I'M CHEERING FOR YOU TWO. REALLY.
BUT YOU KNOW..
EH?
THERE ARE TIMES, WHEN I RELAX TOO MUCH,
AND SOME VERY UNHAPPY THOUGHTS COME TO ME
YES, THAT'S RIGHT
IT'S NOT FAIR THAT I SHOULD FEEL LONELY.
SO WHEN WE'RE ALONE, I MIGHT ACTUALLY DO SOMETHING VERY BAD..
EH?!
EH?
EH?
KOTAROU-CHAN!
LOVE

SEE YOU!
T-
THANKS...
THANKS FOR WALKING ME HOME!
WE'RE HERE! ALMOST!
KOTAROU-CHAN IS...?
I THOUGHT HE WAS CAREFREE AND EASY GOING
AND ALWAYS JOKING AROUND
TOO BAD YOU COULDN'T BECOME MY BRIDE!
YOU'RE SO CUTE!!
KOTAROU-CHAN?!
KOTAROU-CHAN?!

I WONDER IF THE BOSS HAS SOMETHING HE WANTS
AH!
ALL THIS TIME I WAS
ALL THIS TIME,
I'VE TOLD EVERY LAST DETAIL ABOUT MY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE BOSS (TO) KOTAROU!
MORNING!
SO INCREDIBLY INSENSIBLE?!
I COMPLAINED TO HIM ABOUT THINGS AND KEPT SAYING HOW I ADORE THE BOSS


I JUST DON'T KNOW HOW TO ACT ANYMORE!
I CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT HOW INSENSIBLE I'VE BEEN
WHAT TO DO?
STIFF AS A BOARD
No idea.
What happened to Kouine chan?

MO...
MOR-NING...
AH!!


ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? BE MORE CAREFUL.

I MIGHT ACTUALLY DO SOMETHING VERY BAD
EH... THANKS.
KOUMEEE! WATCH OUT! IF YOU DISARRANGE THOSE PAGES, WE'LL HAVE TO START ALL OVER!
YES!
REALLY?!
WAS HE SERIOUS?!
CHRISTMAS TREE?
YES!

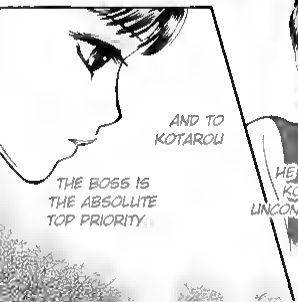
THERE, ALL FIXED
HERE?
HE ALWAYS COMES TO HELP ME
AH. THANKS.
IT'S NOTHING, YOU'RE WELCOME.
HE ALWAYS LENDS ME A HAND, CASUALLY, IN ANY SITUATION.

AND I GOT USED TO BEING PAMPERED BY HIM LIKE THIS
BECAUSE HE MADE ME FEEL AT EASE
UNFORTU-NATELY
IT'S MISTLETOE, RIGHT?
EH?
DON'T YOU KNOW?
ALL SINGLE GIRLS WHO STAND BELOW THE MISTLE-TOE ON CHRISTMAS
SHOULD RECEIVE A KISS.
WHAT?!
BUT, BUT, BUT...
IT'S NOT CHRISTMAS, YET!!
YEAH.

BOSS
OPEN
SNAP
SNAP
Sign
SNAP

NO WAY
I WONDER HOW HE'D REACT

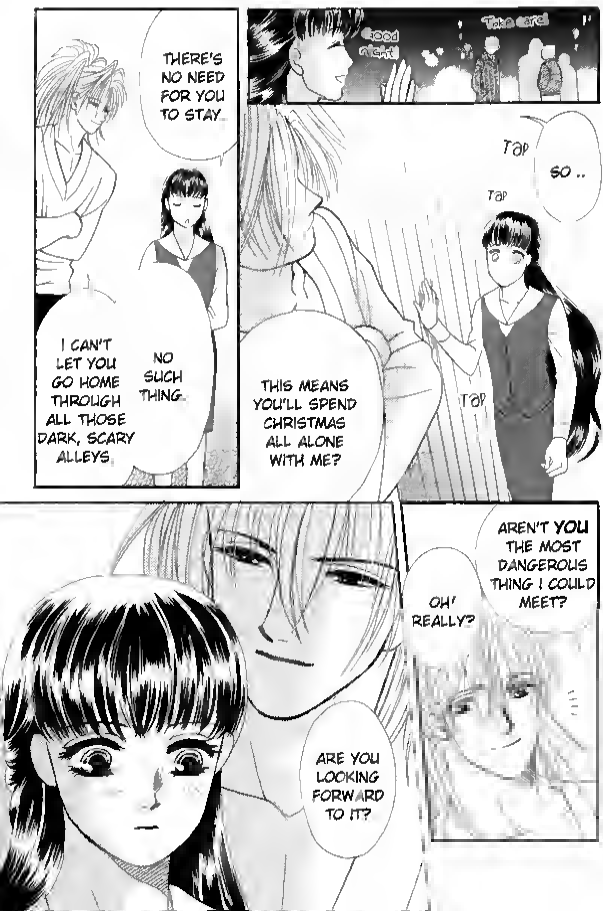
I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO TELL HIM ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THIS


AND TO KOTAROU
THE BOSS IS THE ABSOLUTE TOP PRIORITY

WHAT HE'D SAY
HE TRUSTS KOTAROU UNCONDITIONALLY

I WONDER IF IT WAS ONLY BECAUSE KOTAROU-CHAN DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH SELF-CONFIDENCE
BUT I CAN'T LET THIS SHAKE OUR RELATION-SHIP WITH THE BOSS
I GUESS SOMEONE LIKE ME CAN'T REALLY SHAKE THEIR RELATIONSHIP
AND SO
THEN
SQUEEZE
THAT'S RIGHT, SO
YES

THEN THERE'S ONLY ONE THING I SHOULD DO
EVERYONE, THANKS FOR THE HARD WORK!
WE ALL WORKED LATE TODAY,
SO NOW IT'S TIME FOR MY PRESENTS!
ISN'T THERE SOME MORE CLEANING TO BE DONE?
ONLY THE OFFICES ARE LEFT I'LL DO IT
AND THEN EVERYONE SHOULD HURRY HOME! YOUR FAMILIES ARE WAITING, RIGHT?


THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO STAY.
NO SUCH THING.
I CAN'T LET YOU GO HOME THROUGH ALL THOSE DARK, SCARY ALLEYS.
Tap
Tap
Tap
SO ..
THIS MEANS YOU'LL SPEND CHRISTMAS ALL ALONE WITH ME?
OH! REALLY?
AREN'T YOU THE MOST DANGEROUS THING I COULD MEET?
ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO IT?

REALLY.
REALLY?
TURN
Smile
NOT A BIT.
BECAUSE, KOTAROU-CHAN, YOU AREN'T SERIOUS AT ALL.
ELI
HEY!
NG

BOSS!
YOU CAME EARLIER THAN I EXPECTED
FORTUNATELY, ONE OF MY APPOINTMENTS GOT CANCELED

CHUCKLE
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT MAY HAPPEN TO KOUME-CHAN!
I WONDER IF I SHOULD GET SERIOUS ALREADY... IF YOU DON'T COME BACK FROM YOUR BUSINESS TRIP QUICKLY
flash-back
BUT BOSS, WHY ARE YOU HERE? WEREN'T YOU ON HAKATA.
SNAP
I SEE
THERE YOU GO!
LOVE
LOVE
OH, YES! YOU'RE JUST IN TIME!

BECAUSE I LOVE YOU SO MUCH!
"LOVE" FOR ME, TOO?
YEP!
WELL OF COURSE THE ONE FOR THE BOSS SHOULD BE BIGGER!
BUT MY "LOVE" IS TINY!
BECAUSE I LOVE HIM
NO MATTER IF YOU TRY TO SEDUCE ME OR ANYONE TRIES TO STAND IN THE WAY
IN THE END, IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT

SO BE EASY, ALL RIGHT?
THAT'S WHY YOU TOLD ME ABOUT YOUR FEELINGS, KOTAROU-CHAN
IT WASN'T BECAUSE YOU WANTED TO SHAKE OUR RELATIONSHIP
IT'S BECAUSE YOU WANTED TO MAKE SURE IT WOULDN'T SHAKE THAT'S WHAT I BELIEVE
SO IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT...
I KNOW.
I'M...
IT MADE ME VERY UNEASY BUT ALSO HAPPY
I WAS SERIOUS, ACTUALLY...
SO ..

I'LL TAKE UP THE GAUNTLET."
EVEN IF YOU REALLY MEAN TO BE "THE BAD GUY."
GO.
I LOVE THE BOSS.
ROGER THAT.
NOW DISPLAY YOUR SKILL, PLEASE!

...HEH...
SHE WAS UNDER IT, SO NO HARM DONE!
IT'S THE MISTLETOE!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!
YOU ARE BOTH MY SWEETHEARTS.
AND I LOVE YOU BOTH!
LOVE
THAT'S THE RESULT OF COMING TO TERMS WITH YOUR FEELINGS.
BUT...
YOU KNEW ABOUT KOTAROU-CHAN, DIDN'T YOU?
WELL...

DO YOU THINK IT WOULD'VE BEEN FOR THE BEST?
I THINK THE RESULT MIGHT HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT
IF HE HAD BEEN SERIOUS ABOUT HAVING YOU TO HIMSELF RIGHT FROM THE START...
RUSTLE
FOR ME..?

I DON'T WANT YOU TO FEEL BURDENED WITH ANY KIND OF PROMISE IF YOU ACCEPT IT.
MAY I PUT IT ON YOUR FINGER?
KOUME...
BUT I ADMIT THAT I MIGHT HAVE SOME HIDDEN INTENTION TO BIND YOU WITH IT.
SO THAT SOMETHING LIKE THIS DOESN'T HAPPEN AGAIN.

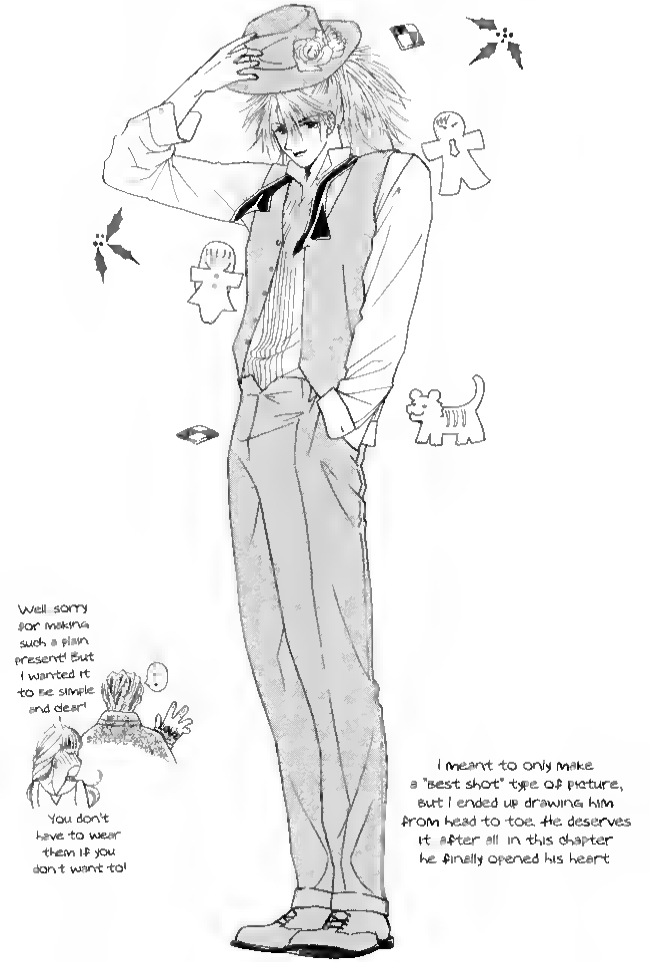
KOUME...
THANK YOU...
MI-
MI-
MI...
MIKAGE-
-SAN
MI-

AH... YOU'RE...
DON'T PUSH YOURSELF TOO HARD.
THE WAY YOU SAY "BOSS" IS SPECIAL.
I LIKE IT.
ME TOO...
THE WAY YOU SAY "KOUME" MAKES MY HEART BEAT LIKE NOTHING ELSE CAN...
YOU CAN'T REFUSE ME WHEN YOU'RE UNDER THE MISTLETOE, RIGHT?

OF COURSE I WON'T!
MERRY CHRISTMAS.
I guess it's because of Kotarou. And he won't disappear until he turns that guy into dead meat!
Mr Tiger is still here.

<CHAPTER 8. BELOW THE MISTLETOE> THE END

A cut from chapter 8
Below the Mistletoe.



Well sorry for making such a plain present! But I wanted it to be simple and clear!

You don't have to wear them if you don't want to!

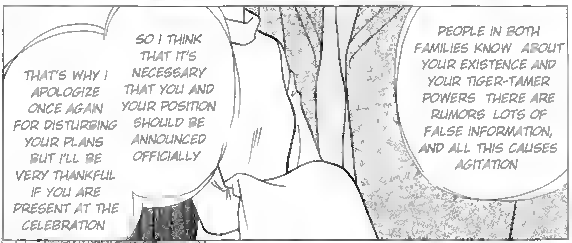
I meant to only make a "best shot" type of picture, but I ended up drawing him from head to toe. He deserves it after all in this chapter he finally opened his heart

Chapter 9
Barairo Dawn

DECEMBER 30TH...
I SHOULD HAVE BEEN ON A PLANE FOR HOKKAIDO, WHERE I COME FROM, BUT
IF YOU'RE WONDERING WHY I'M IN SUCH A MANSION INSTEAD, THEN

I DEEPLY APOLOGIZE FOR THE WAY YOU WERE HURRIED HERE
THE CEREMONY FOR SEEING OFF THE OLD YEAR WITH THE TIGER-MASTER IS AN ANCIENT ONE
BUT OUR YOUNG SERVANTS DO NOT SEEM TO APPRECIATE TRADITIONS ANYMORE
I APOLOGIZE FOR THEIR LACK OF TACT AND MANNERS
IT'S FINE...
BUT THE FACT THAT YOU, LADY KOUME ARE HERE NOW, DESPITE THE PROHIBITION THE TIGER-MASTER SET AGAINST INVOLVING YOU IN OUR CUSTOMS,
IS A GREAT HONOR AND JOY FOR THE WHOLE KAZAMORI FAMILY.
I AM SURE THAT THE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION WILL BE EXCEPTIONALLY BRILLIANT THIS YEAR
I'M VERY SORRY FOR RUINING YOUR PLANS FOR THE NEW YEAR HOLIDAY, BUT...
SPENDING NEW YEAR'S EVE IN THE TOMONAGA HOME?
ON CHRISTMAS EVE,
THE BOSS RAN HOME RIGHT FROM A BUSINESS TRIP
HE HAD BARELY ARRIVED AT HIS DESTINATION AND HE HAD TO RETURN
THAT'S THE CONVERSATION WE HAD WHEN WE MET THAT EVENING

AT THE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION AT THE TOMONAGA HOME THIS YEAR, I'LL BE INTRODUCED OFFICIALLY AS A TIGER-MASTER FOR THE FIRST TIME
IT IS A DISPLAY OF RESPECT AND LOYALTY TOWARDS THE FAMILY AND THE SPIRITS OF THE ANCESTORS
AND [illegible] MY [illegible] CAL TIGER-TAMER IS KOTAROU KAZAMORI, THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO BE PRESENT
AFTER ALL YOU DON'T HAVE ANY OFFICIAL CONNECTION TO TOMONAGA OR KAZAMORI
SO I HAD NO INTENTION TO DRAG YOU BEFORE THE PUBLIC EYE FOR WHATEVER REASON BUT


PEOPLE IN BOTH FAMILIES KNOW ABOUT YOUR EXISTENCE AND YOUR TIGER-TAMER POWERS THERE ARE RUMORS LOTS OF FALSE INFORMATION, AND ALL THIS CAUSES AGITATION
SO I THINK THAT IT'S NECESSARY THAT YOU AND YOUR POSITION SHOULD BE ANNOUNCED OFFICIALLY
THAT'S WHY I APOLOGIZE ONCE AGAIN FOR DISTURBING YOUR PLANS BUT I'LL BE VERY THANKFUL IF YOU ARE PRESENT AT THE CELEBRATION

AND ANOTHER THING
I PERSONALLY WILL BE VERY HAPPY TO SPEND NEW YEAR'S EVE WITH YOU

THEN DO WE USE THE SOUTH SECTION?
NO, THE EAST ONE
SHITOU KIRA-SAN IS THERE, SO HE'LL DEAL WITH THOSE PREPARATIONS
OK.
CLATTER
DID HE SAY IT BECAUSE WE COULDN'T CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS EVE PROPERLY?
OR DOES IT MEAN HE WANTS TO SPEND TIME WITH ME ALONE?!
I WAS PRETTY EXCITED BACK THEN
BUT NOW
MIKAGE-SAMA!
YES, I'LL COME IN A MINUTE!
MIKAGE-SAMA!
WHEN I GOT HERE, THE BOSS WAS ALREADY NECK-DEEP IN PREPARATIONS
AND IT SEEMS THAT THE "NIGHT ALL ALONE" WILL ACTUALLY BE SPENT IN ALL SORTS OF PUBLIC CEREMONIES UNTIL MORNING
And I'm a little embarrassed that I got so excited over nothing

IT'S ALL BECAUSE YOU'RE A TIGER-TAMER. SO JUST PLAY THE PRINCESS FOR THE MOMENT
AREN'T YOU A TIGER-TAMER, TOO?
AND THE BOSS IS THE TIGER-MASTER!
BUT BOTH OF YOU ARE WORKING VERY HARD!
I'M SORRY IS THERE SOMETHING MORE YOU NEED?
I HAVE MORE THAN I NEED!
THE ATMOSPHERE IS TOO CULTURED FOR ME AND I JUST HAVE TO SIT AND DO NOTHING
ISN'T THERE ANYTHING I COULD HELP WITH?
POUT
FROM TOMORROW ON IT'LL ONLY BE OFFICIAL DINNERS AND CEREMONIES AND YOU WON'T HAVE TIME TO BE BORED
SO ENJOY IT WHILE YOU STILL CAN
OUR DUTIES MIX ON MANY OCCASIONS SO WE HAVE TO STICK TOGETHER.
THAT'S BECAUSE BOTH OF US ARE THE FUTURE HEADS OF OUR FAMILIES AND WE HAVE OTHER DUTIES BESIDES THE CEREMONIAL ONES.

- Barairo Dawn -

The head of the Tomonaga family is not the place where Mikage was raised. It's something like the headquarters of the whole family. The place where Mikage was raised was an old western-style mansion but the head house is even older and built exclusively in traditional Japanese-style.

And the Kazamori home that Kaoru visited some time ago is also a traditional home very close to these "headquarters."

The Tomonaga celebrations are all about the tiger so the future head of the Tomonaga and Kazamori have more work then they can handle.

And then tell the guy in charge what he ordered and then hurry to see what happened to that other business.

Let's see I have to report that to Mikage and...

Maybe the busiest man of all is Kotarou-chan.

SPLASH

I WONDER HOW MANY HOUSES HE HAS?

There's this one and the one his... dad took me to...

And I think I've heard he lives alone in some other mansion.

AND WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE METROPOLITAN AREA

THE HEAD MANSION OF THE TOMONAGA FAMILY IS EVEN LARGER THAN THE BOSS'S HOUSE I VISITED BEFORE

AH!
BE CAREFUL!
EH? YES...
CRA-SH
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
HURRY UP AND CLEAN THIS MESS!
DON'T MOON AROUND!
SOMEONE BRING A VACUUM CLEANER!
AH! I WILL!
In the room over there...
But where is it?
I'LL BORROW THIS FOR A MOMENT.
Ah, sure.
Hurry up and do the next room too!
Yes, ma'am
VROOM
WHO'S SHE?
NO IDEA.

YOU KNOW, SOME TIME AGO ..
Hmm did we have such a girl in the staff?
I need three people who can help in the cellar
Cellar cellar
Yes ma'am
I WAS CARRYING THE TEA FOR MASTER MIKAGE AND I SPILLED IT!
EH?!
DID YOU GET SCOLDED?!
I WAS SO SCARED
AND HE ONLY SAID TWO WORDS WHEN I WAS LEAVING!
BE CAREFUL.
EH!
Wah!
MASTER MIKAGE WAS ON THE PHONE, BUT HE GLARED AT ME WITHOUT SAYING A WORD
NOPE, THAT WASN'T A GLARE
He's an irony-face after all..
I'M SURE HE WAS WATCHING WITH HIS USUAL EXPRESSION
Did something happen?
SCA-AAA-ARY!
I FELT MY BLOOD FREEZE!
AW BOSS IF YOU DON'T PUT SOME EXPRESSION ON THAT FACE OF YOURS NOBODY WILL EVER UNDERSTAND YOU!

HE'S NOT SOMEONE WHO'D GET MAD OVER SOMETHING LIKE THIS!
SO IF I MADE HIM MAD, THE TIGER WOULD COME OUT AND...
DID YOU HEAR THAT MASTER MIKAGE IS A TIGER-MASTER?
If such a rumor got out it'd be big trouble!
Really?
HE'S STERN, BUT HE KNOWS HOW TO FORGIVE MISTAKES.
I THINK WHAT HE MEANT WAS THAT HE WAS WORRIED IF YOU GOT BURNED WITH THE HOT TEA.
HE SAID "BE CAREFUL" OUT OF CONCERN FOR YOU
ALL THE TIGERS OF THE TOMONAGA TIGER-MASTER
OF COURSE
HE'S NOT THE TYPE OF MAN WHO'D MAKE THE TIGER APPEAR OVER SOMETHING SO SMALL
...AND IN ORDER TO MAKE HIM DISAPPEAR, THE TIGER-MASTER NEEDS A TIGER-TAMER
APPEAR OUT OF HIS MASTER'S SUPPRESSED, STRONG EMOTIONS

NORMALLY, THE BOSS KNOWS PERFECTLY HOW TO CONTROL HIS EMOTIONS
AND I CAN ONLY BE OF SERVICE IN THE RARE OCCASIONS THE TIGER DOES APPEAR
BUT THE TIMES WHEN HE'S MOST LIKELY TO CAUSE THE TIGER TO APPEAR
ARE WHEN HE'S WITH ME
IT'S BECAUSE HE HAS SOME SPECIAL FEELINGS FOR ME AND I CAN EASILY GET HIM EXCITED
SO HE NEEDS ME ONLY VERY RARELY
OF COURSE, I SHOULD BE HAPPY ABOUT IT
THE TIGER-MASTER WHO IS SUPPOSED TO MAKE THE TIGER DISAPPEAR, ACTUALLY BECOMES THE REASON FOR ITS APPEARANCE
BUT I'VE BEEN THINKING - IS THIS REALLY OK?
IT FEELS AS IF OUR PRIORITIES ARE VERY MUCH MISTAKEN
IS IT ALL RIGHT FOR ME TO BE HIS TIGER-TAMER...?

SO YOU'VE SETTLED MATTERS IN HAKATA?
YES. I RECEIVED ASSISTANCE FROM TAKADA'S UNCLE.
I THOUGHT THAT TAKADA WOULD COO-PERATE.
HE MUST BE TRYING TO RECOVER HIS REPUTATION AFTER THAT BLUNDER LAST YEAR
HE PUT HIS TAIL BETWEEN HIS LEGS AND FINALLY STARTED WORKING
THE FUTURE HEAD OF THE TOMONAGA SURE KNOWS HOW TO HANDLE HIS SUBOR-DINATES
AS SHOULD BE EXPEC-TED OF HIM!

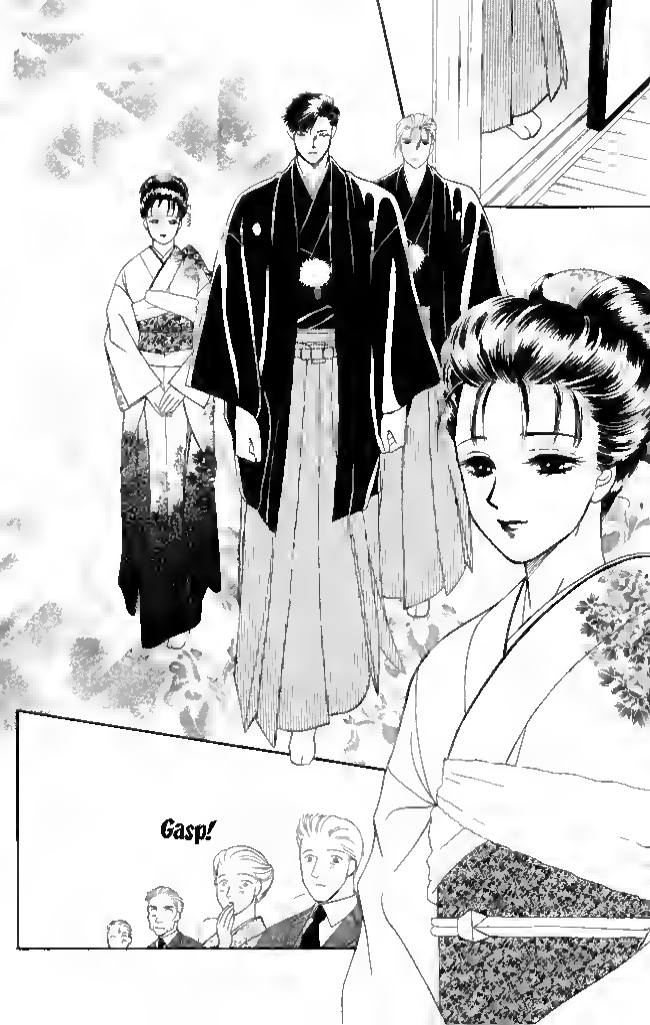
SLASH
AHHH!
GRAND-FATHER!
H-HURTS!
Are you OK?!
President!!
Ah! We're terrible sorry sir!
BOSS!

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?!
DO WE PAY YOU TO LOITER AROUND AND KNOCK PEOPLE DOWN?!
WE'RE TERRIBLY SORRY, SIR!
WE WERE IN THE CELLAR AND...
FINE, FINE, JUST GET OUT OF MY...
FAT
FAT

I FELT REALLY USELESS.
BUT I COULDN'T HELP YOU OR KOTAROU, SO...
HELPING.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I THOUGHT I'D FIND SOMETHING I COULD BE USEFUL WITH!
THAT'S SO LIKE YOU.

HO-HOOO..
EH... I'M VERY SORRY I BUMPED INTO YOU, ARE YOU OK?
That girl was the tiger-tamer
Didn't you women know?!
We thought someone tired her because we didn't have enough people for the preparations!
AH, NO NEED TO WORRY ABOUT ME.
GRAND-FATHER
HM?
THIS IS MY TIGER-TAMER, KOUME MAKIBA-KUN
Hi I'm Koume!
WHAT?!
Lady Kosuzu
IF LADY KOSUZU SAW YOU LIKE THIS, SHE'LL FAINT OR WORSE
PLEASE, GO BACK AND HAVE SOME REST NOW.

SOMEONE, SHOW HER TO HER ROOM!
AH! YES, SIR!
SO YOU'LL BE BUSY FROM VERY EARLY IN THE MORNING
EHHH..
TOMORROW SHE'LL HAVE TO DECK YOU OUT FOR THE CEREMONIES,
The esteemed Tiger-Master
HUSH! THEY'RE COMING!
THE TIGER-MASTER MUST FEEL VERY HUMILIATED TO APPEAR IN PUBLIC WITH HER...
WELL, THERE WERE RUMORS SHE WAS A COMMONER, BUT
IS IT REALLY THAT BAD?
MY, MY SO THAT WAS THE TIGER-TAMER? WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT


Gasp!

LONG LIVE TOMONAGA!
LONG LIVE!
LONG...
WAIT A MINUTE!
TODAY WE HAVE THE HONOR TO BE IN THE PRESENCE OF THE ESTEEMED TIGER-MASTER AND HIS TIGER-TAMERS
LET US ALL PRAY FOR THE
PROSPERITY OF THE TOMONAGA FAMILY!

HAVING TWO TIGER-TAMERS IS UNPRECE-DENTED!
ONE OF THEM DOES NOT HAVE THE POWER TO CONTROL THE TIGER!
THE OTHER IS NOT OF THE KAZAMORI FAMILY, THEREFORE UNABLE TO SERVE THE HEAD OF THE FAMILY!
NONE OF THEM HAVE THE QUALIFICATIONS TO BECOME REAL TIGER-TAMERS!
DO YOU MEAN YOU STEP BACK FROM THE VOWS?!
YOU'VE SAID TOO MUCH!
NO, I THINK HE'S RIGHT!
It seems that the family is facing a crisis!
How could such a thing happen?
Yes!

IT'S OK!
CLENCH

EVERYTHING IS FINE.
IT IS TRUE THAT I AM NOT A PART OF THE KAZA-MORI FAMILY
AND I DO NOT HAVE THE POWER TO SUPPORT THE VICE-PRESIDENT AS KOTAROU-CHAN DOES. AND IT'S TRUE THAT KOTAROU-CHAN DOES NOT HAVE THE POWER TO SUBSIDE THE TIGER AS I DO.
AND I UNDERSTAND THAT SOME OF YOU THINK THAT WE'RE ONLY HALF-TIGER-TAMERS.
BUT OUR COMBINED STRENGTH IS THE STRENGTH OF TWO PEOPLE!

THE VICE-PRESIDENT'S TIGER IS VERY, VERY POWERFUL.
HE NEEDS TWO PEOPLE TO HELP HIM.
THIS WAY, HE CAN USE ALL HIS STRENGTH AND ALL HIS POWERS TO PROTECT THE TOMONAGA FAMILY.
DON'T YOU THINK THIS IS WONDERFUL FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY?
HO HO HO
HE HE HE

YES, YES THAT'S SO
ESPECIALLY THIS YOUNG AND PRETTY LADY WITH SUCH GUTS
VERY PROMISING
THAT'S GOOD.
VERY GOOD.
AND ABOUT "UNPRECEDENTED.."
WHAT'S UNPRECEDENTED ARE THE CHARACTERS OF THE TIGER-MASTER AND TIGER-TAMERS WE HAVE HERE
INVESTIGATE WHAT THE RELATIONSHIP IS BETWEEN MIKAGE AND THAT GIRL
YES, SIR?
KOYATA?

YES, SIR...
ARE YOU AWAKE?

Something like this already happened once. Deja vu? Deja vu!
!!
DON'T YOU REMEMBER HOW YOU FELL ASLEEP DURING THE RITUALS FOR SEEING OFF THE OLD YEAR?
AH...
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT..
THEN THERE WAS A BANQUET AND WE LISTENED TO THE NEW YEAR'S EVE BELLS *
THEN WE CLIMBED TO THE SHRINE ON TOP OF THE HILL BEHIND THE MANSION
IN THIS SHRINE WE HONOR THE DEITY AND THE ANCESTOR WHO FIRST CREATED THE TOMONAGA TIGER.
DID I GET DRUNK WITH THE RITUAL SAKE..?

(*NOTE: THE CELEBRATIONS FOR SEEING OFF THE OLD YEAR IN JAPAN CONSIST OF RITUAL PURIFICATION WITH WATER (NOT AS RAD AS MEDITATING IN A WATERFALL, BUT ANYWAY,) A VISIT TO A SHINTO SHRINE AND LISTENING TO THE TEMPLES' BELLS TOLL 108 TIMES (FOR ALL 108 SINS YOU MUST SHAKE OFF AND LEAVE IN THE OLD YEAR.)

EH?!
THEN WE'LL BE ALL ALONE UNTIL MORNING?!
WE HAVE TO MEET THE FIRST DAY OF THE NEW YEAR IN PRAYERS FOR DIVINE PROTECTION FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY.
AFTER THE RITES WITH THE FAMILY ARE COMPLETE, THE TIGER-MASTER AND TIGER-TAMER ARE LEFT HERE ALONE.
A FIRST BR-BR-BR BRIDAL NIGHT!
AND ON TOP OF THAT, WE'RE ONLY DRESSED IN LIGHT WHITE KIMONOS! IT'S LIKE...
THEY— THEY LEFT US HERE ALL ALONE
SO CALM DOWN.
I WON'T DO ANYTHING TO YOU UNTIL YOU'RE READY.
NO NEED TO BE SO STIFF AND NERVOUS.

I DON'T MIND IF YOU.. WANT TO... DO IT...
I DON'T.
EH?
AND YOU?

COME
TREMBLE
DO YOU MEAN YOU WANT ME?
EH... UM... THAT IS...
WAAA...

IS THAT A GOOD THING?
BECAUSE... ISN'T IT MY FAULT THE TIGER APPEARS?
BECAUSE YOU ARE ALWAYS SO NATURAL.
WE WERE SAVED BACK THEN,
AND YOUR PRESENCE AWAKENS IN ME FEELINGS I THOUGHT I HAD FORGOTTEN
YOU SAID THAT ONLY BECAUSE OF ME..
YOU WANT TO DO EVERYTHING THAT YOU CAN FOR ME, ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO PUSH YOURSELF SO MUCH.

THANKS TO YOU, I CAN SMILE, I CAN GET ANGRY...
OR HAPPY, OR SAD...
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT
IT'S THANKS TO YOU.
BUT YOU'LL ALWAYS BE THERE TO TAKE CARE OF THAT, WON'T YOU?
THE TIGER COMES OUT...
AND IF I CAN'T EXPRESS THEM WELL,
I SEE...
OF COURSE...
SO IT'S ALL RIGHT WITH YOU?

I SEE!
SO EVERY-THING'S OK!
BY THE WAY...
THAT WASN'T VERY CONVINCING
YOU DIDN'T ANSWER ME.
DO YOU WANT ME?
EH.
SO LET ME SEE FOR MYSELF
EH!
EH...
I'M NOT SURE...

TREMBLE
SO THIS IS
HOW IT FEELS TO BE ENCHANTED?

HEAT IS SPREADING FROM EVERY PLACE HE TOUCHES...
AND MY WHOLE BODY IS STARTING TO BURN
AHH
SIGH
I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING
BUT THE FEELING I GET WHEN HE TOUCHES ME —
I DON'T WANT TO LET GO

MORE...
AHH
SIGH
MORE...

THIS IS ALL BACKFIRING AGAINST ME...
WE CAN'T...
EH?
NOTHING.
SO...

WELL?
SFX: BLUSHHH!!
POP!
MR. TIGER!
Bully!
BULLY!
Meanie!
Tease!
WELL, I ALREADY RECEIVED SUITABLE PUNISHMENT, SO YOU'LL HAVE TO FORGIVE ME

Purr
Purr
Purr
I WAS TRYING TO RESTRAIN MYSELF TOO MUCH AND THERE HE IS.
EVEN IF I DID THINK OF DOING ANYTHING ELSE, THAT'S THAT.
THE SUN IS THE SAME COLOR AS MR. TIGER!
AH! COOL!

EH?
DID YOU SAY SOME-THING?
NO

I'LL...
NEVER LET YOU GO.

HAPPY NEW YEAR.

▲ A cut from chapter 9 Barairo Dawn

WORDS FROM THE AUTHOR

Hello everyone! Tomu Oomi here!
This is my 14th separate volume! I'd like to thank everyone who took interest in it! In this volume I didn't have any extra pages in the end so I apologize for saying "Hello" in such a place.

So Barairo made it to volume 2! I'm so happy!
This time the main topic was Kaume's struggle to come to terms for her feelings with Mikage. She's shy and Mikage's self-control is as perfect as ever: so will things really go further between them? But let's believe in them like Kotarou! Go for it, Mikage!!

One more volume of Barairo left! Please, continue to support me as you have done until now! And let's hope we'll meet again in another one of Petit Comic's issues!

I can't answer you but
if you want you can write
to me about your opinions
to this address
P.O. 101-8001
Tokyo Chiyoda, Ichibashi 2-3-1
Shougakukan, Editorial Department CO. Tomu Oomi

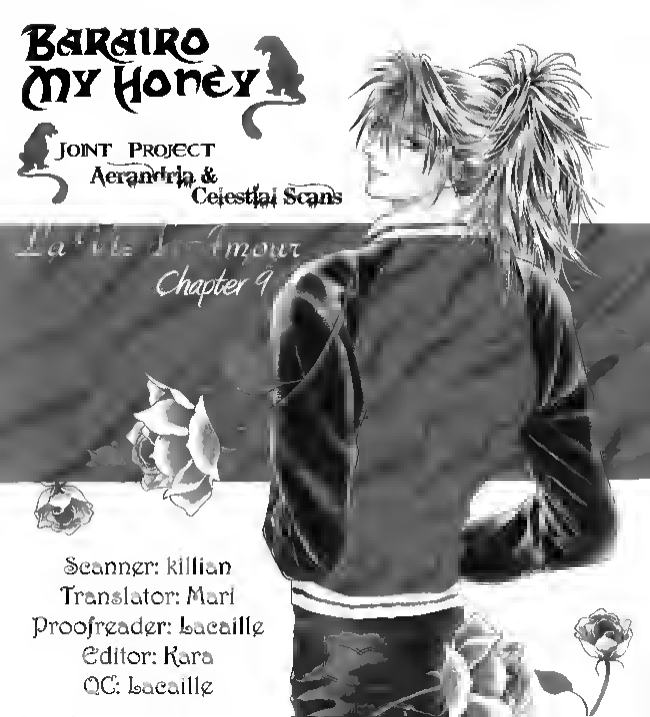
I'd like to thank everyone who was involved in the making of this volume and also to everyone who bought it!

I'll also be glad if you send me E-mails at Petit Comic. I can't answer E-mails but instead you'll receive New Year's cards, so please include your addresses in the messages too! Thank you!

Bakairo My Honey

JOINT PROJECT
Aerandria & Celestial Scans

La Vie D'Amour
Chapter 9



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Translator: Mari
Proofreader: Lacaille
Editor: Kara
QC: Lacaille

CHAPTER 10
BARAIRO TEA-PARTY

TIGER-MASTER!
CONGRATULATIONS
ON FINISHING THE TSUINA* CEREMONY SAFELY!
THANK YOU FOR THE SUPPORT.
AS A TIGER-TAMER, I TOOK PART IN THE TOMONAGA NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS.
EVER SINCE THEN, IT HAPPENED THAT I STARTED SHOWING UP ON ALL SORTS OF OTHER RITES AND CELEBRATIONS, TOO

(*NOTE: SPECIAL RELIGIOUS CEREMONY FOR DRIVING OUT EVIL SPIRITS AND PRAYING FOR GOOD FORTUNE.)

I'M SORRY THEY CALLED YOU, TOO.
THROUGH THE YEAR I HAVE TO DO THIS ON SETSUBUN.*
IT'S THE TIGER-MASTER'S DUTY TO EXORCISE THE DEMONS SO THAT THE WHOLE FAMILY WOULD BE SAFE FROM DISASTERS
YOU ALWAYS SAY THAT AND MONOPOLIZE KOUME-CHAN.
I WANT TO MEET HER FROM TIME TO TIME, TOO.
CAN'T I?
Hello!
CUTE LADY TIGER-TAMER THEN SOME GUY LIKE ME, EVEN FROM THE KAZAMORI FAMILY.
THAT'S TO SAY, IT'S MUCH BETTER FOR THE MORALE TO HAVE A
THAT'S BECAUSE KOUME-CHAN IS YOUR TIGER-TAMER, MIKAGE.
IF SHE'S NOT HERE, THE CEREMONY CANNOT BE EXECUTED PROPERLY.
THE OFFICIAL TIGER-TAMER IS KOTAROU! IT'D BE ENOUGH IF ONLY HE ATTENDS.
EVEN IF SHE DOES HAVE THE POWERS OF THE TIGER-TAMER, THE CEREMONIES OF THE TOMONAGA OR KAZAMORI FAMILIES HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH HER.
SO PLEASE, DON'T INVOLVE HER IN OUR CUSTOMS.
Calm down, calm down.
IT'S OK, I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO THE CELEBRATION!
Mika-chan, you're getting too excitable lately.

*NOTE: SETSUBUN IS A JAPANESE HOLIDAY WHICH MARKS THE END OF WINTER AND BEGINNING OF SPRING ON THAT DAY PEOPLE GO TO SHRINES AND THROW BEANS FROM THEIR HOUSES SAYING "MAY FORTUNE GO OUT GOOD FORTUNE COME IN"!

BIRTHDAY?
EH.. YES...
WHEN I WAS BACK IN HOKKAIDO, IT WAS MUCH MORE LIVELY BECAUSE WE CELEBRATED SETSUBUN AND THE BIRTHDAY IN ONE DAY!
LAST YEAR I ONLY THREW A FEW BEANS* AND IT WAS PRETTY LONELY
(*NOTE SHE MEANS THE SETSUBUN TRADITION OF THROWING BEANS.)
EH.
IN WHAT TIME WERE YOU BORN?
SO YOU'RE ALREADY TWENTY? THE DAY IS ADVANCING!
SO TODAY IS YOUR BIRTHDAY, KOUME-CHAN?
IT'S TOO LATE TO SAY SOMETHING LIKE "AFTER-WARDS!"
WELL, YOU WERE VERY BUSY, SO I THOUGHT I MIGHT TELL YOU AFTERWARDS.
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL US?
SCARY

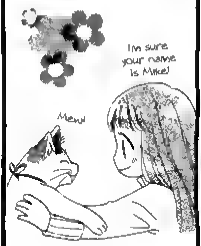
I SHOULD HAVE INQUIRED. I'M SORRY.
NO
EH .. NO NOTHING LIKE THAT!
ME TOO, I DIDN'T KNOW WHEN YOUR BIRTHDAY WAS UNTIL IT PASSED!
THE RING...
PRESI- It's DENT? time.
YES, COMING
~Christmas~
EH?! WHAT!
PINK DIAMOND?! HOW MUCH DID THIS COST?!
Ahhh!
I'M AFRAID TO WEAR IT!!
EH?! BUT I CAN'T JUST WEAR THAT RING SO CASUALLY..!
IS NOT ON YOUR FINGER.
THE RING I GAVE YOU FOR CHRIST-MAS

I UNDERSTAND...
I LIKE THAT RING, I...
NO... THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT AT ALL!
YOU'LL CHOOSE WHAT YOU WANT
THEN NEXT TIME, WE'LL GO BUY YOU ONE TOGETHER.
ALL RIGHT...
LET'S GO BUY YOU ANOTHER THIS SUNDAY. THEN WE'LL HAVE LUNCH TOGETHER.
IT WAS EGOTISTICAL OF ME TO BUY YOU SUCH A RING.

- Barairo Tea-Party -

On the cover of this chapter I drew a cat in Koume-chan's room, but the cat doesn't belong to her.

I'm sure she's just keeping her eye on the kittie for someone.



And I think Koume-chan used to have a cat in her old home.

I CAN'T BELIEVE I EVEN PREPARED SUCH SEXY UNDERWEAR!
I'M SO ASHAMED OF MYSELF!!!
THE BOSS'S KISSES ON NEW YEAR'S EVE REALLY MADE ME WANT TO –
CONTINUE FROM WHERE WE LEFT OFF
I REALLY LOVED IT...
WHEN I REMEMBER HIS ARMS AND THE WARMTH OF HIS BODY I'M ABLE...
IF WAS NOT HIM OF WAS THAT MADE ME FEEL AS IF I'D BECOME CRUEL, DIRTY AND VILE...
SIGH-

SHOCK
PHONE RINGING
I STARTED TO WONDER WHAT WAS WRONG WITH ME
NONE OF THE BOYFRIENDS I'VE HAD UNTIL NOW MADE ME FEEL LIKE THAT
BUT AFTER ALL, I AM A GIRL
That's good
HELLO?!
AH, YES, I'M AWAKE, IT'S ALL RIGHT!
THAT REMINDS ME, I WOKE UP REALLY EARLY TODAY TO GET READY
EH...
SOME VERY URGENT MEETING TURNED UP WITH THE CLIENTS WE'RE SUPPOSED TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH TOMORROW
SO I WON'T BE ABLE TO MEET WITH YOU TODAY
AH... I SEE...
YOU LET ME DOWN.
I'M SORRY
ALL RIGHT, JUST JOKING. I'M SURE YOU CAN'T AVOID IT

SIGH
YES
YES, IT'S ALL RIGHT
GOOD LUCK WITH THE MEETING
BARELY KEEPING MR TIGER SHUT
YOU'RE PROBABLY DISAPPOINTED, TOO?
HA HA HA HA! ALL RIGHT, SEE YOU SOON!
CUPPLE
LET'S GET SOME SLEEP...
TAP
TAP
TAP
LOCK

FANCY MEETING YOU HERE!
I'M HUNGRY
YOU ARE THE BOSS'S GRANDPA!
AH, ISN'T THIS KOUME-CHAN?
Slam!
WHAT HAPPENED? DID YOUR APPOINTMENT WITH MIKAGE FAIL?
OOPS! I MEAN, I MEAN, PRESIDENT TOMO-NAGA!
GRANDPA IS FINE WITH ME
BLOOM

HE HAS WORK
HO HO HO! THAT'S TOO BAD!
NOW I FEEL THAT I'M GIVING HIM TOO MUCH WORK!
THEN, IF HE CAN'T MAKE IT, I'LL TAKE YOU TO LUNCH, KOUME-CHAN! ♥
Come on, get in, get in!
EH?!
UM, BUT...
BUT I DON'T HAVE ANY MAKE-UP AND THESE CLOTHES ARE SO...
HM?
THEN THAT'S WHAT WE'LL DO!

This doesn't even have a price-tag!
THEY WERE COMFORTABLE, I LIKED THEM
HOW DID YOU LIKE THE ITEMS WE SENT YOU THE OTHER DAY?
THANKS
WELCOME, MASTER TOMONAGA!
Cool
AND MIKAGE PRAISES YOU SO MUCH, TOO.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
WE HAVE THE HONOR TO HAVE HIM AMONG OUR PATRONS.
DOES THE BOSS COME HERE, TOO?
YES, INDEED.
YOU HAVE A VERY LOVELY COMPANION TODAY.
I'm sure all of his clothes are order made.
SO HE DOES HIS SHOPPING IN SUCH PLACES
I had to expect that

I WANT YOU TO LET THIS GIRL CHOOSE ANYTHING FROM YOUR COLLECTIONS SHE LIKES.
EH?!
IT'S A PRESENT, A PRESENT! DIDN'T YOU HAVE A BIRTHDAY A FEW DAYS AGO?
BUT, I...
WHAT'S THE MATTER? DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU COULDN'T GO ON A DATE WITH ME IN THOSE CLOTHES?
TAKING OUT PRETTY GIRLS IS EVERY RICH OLD MAN'S FAVORITE PAST TIME! COME ON
AH. THEN.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

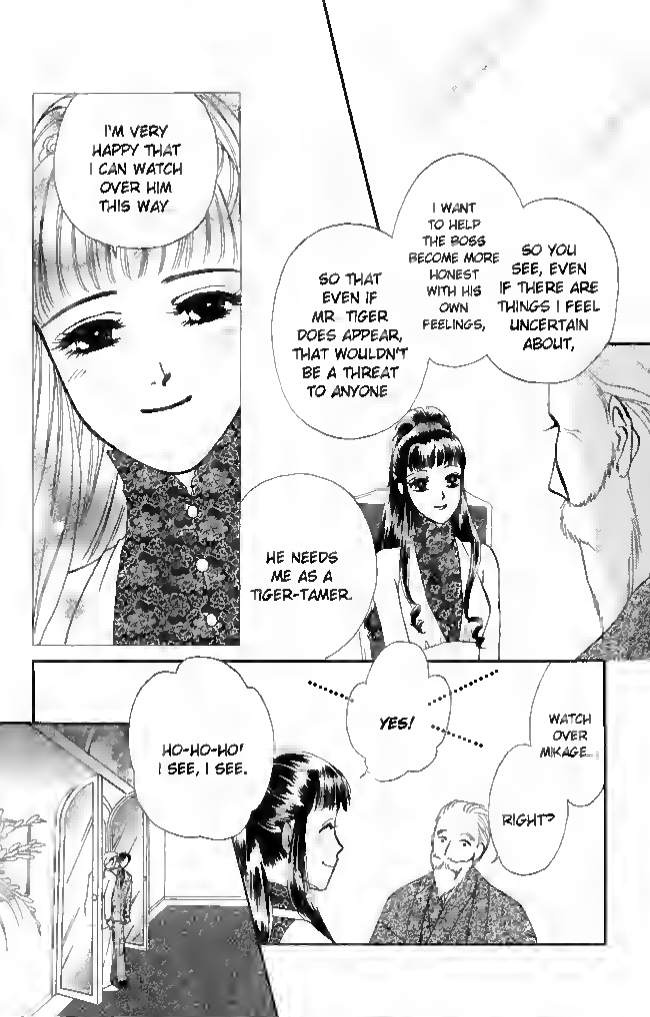
THEN JUST PACK THE OTHERS AND LEAVE THEM IN THE CAR.
GRAND-PA?!
These too, right?
OOH, THAT LOOKS GOOD!
The shop has a hair-stylist too!
YOU SHOULDN'T DO THIS! I ACCEPT THIS DRESS I'LL WEAR TODAY AND I THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR IT!
BUT I CAN'T LET YOU BUY ME ANYTHING ELSE!
YOU ARE MIKAGE'S TIGER-TAMER, AREN'T YOU?
HO HO HO!
BUT MY FEELINGS WILL BE DAMAGED!
YOU CAN'T DAMAGE MY WALLET SO EASILY, YOU KNOW.

FROM NOW ON, YOU'LL APPEAR WITH HIM AT ALL SORTS OF OTHER GATHERINGS.
SO YOU CAN NEVER HAVE TOO MANY DRESSES.
YOU'RE SLY...
THEN...
ONLY THIS AND THIS!
AND THAT'S ALL?
YES!
SHAKE SHAKE SHAKE
SO MANY DRESSES CAN'T FIT IN MY CLOSET!
HO-HO-HO! IS THAT SO?

DON'T EVEN JOKE ABOUT IT!
THEN WHY DON'T I GIVE YOU A NEW APARTMENT, WITH A LARGER CLOSET?
*LISH
THANK YOU VERY MUCH

ARE YOU GETTING USED TO THE TOMONAGA FAMILY, KOUME-CHAN?
CLINK
I'M SO HAPPY
THERE ARE STILL MANY THINGS THAT SURPRISE ME.
LIKE THIS NOW
THIS IS SO DELI-CIOUS
HO-HO-HO!
BUT I JUST CAN'T GET USED TO THE FACT THAT PEOPLE SERVE ME
JUST BECAUSE I'M A TIGER-TAMER
POUT
BUT I ENJOY IT.
YOU CAN SAY I'M EXTENDING THE CIRCLE OF MY FRIENDS.

AND I THINK SUCH A TIGER-MASTER CAN REALLY DO A LOT FOR THE TOMONAGA FAMILY.
SO I UNDERSTAND WHEN PEOPLE AT HOME CALL HIM "THE ESTEEMED TIGER-MASTER."
I SEE...
HM?
THE TOMONAGA FAMILY CHOSE TO LIVE FOR THE SAKE OF THE TIGER AND HIS MASTER
WHEN I LOOK AT THE BOSS AND HIS TIGER, I THINK I CAN UNDER-STAND WHY
BUT YOU KNOW,
SOMEONE LIKE THE BOSS, WHO REALLY LOVES EVERYONE IN THE TOMONAGA FAMILY,
WHO HAS THE ABILITY AND DESIRE TO WORK FOR THE GOOD OF HIS FAMILY,
AND WHO EXERCISES SUCH STEELY SELF-CONTROL FOR THE SAKE OF THEIR SAFETY.
AND WHO CAUSES THE TIGER TO APPEAR BECAUSE OF HIS SUPPRESSED FEELINGS.
I THINK HE'S A WONDERFUL TIGER-MASTER.
BUT THE BOSS HAS THE BAD HABIT TO SUPPRESS HIS EMOTIONS NOT ONLY WHEN HE'S AT WORK,
BUT IN HIS PRIVATE LIFE, TOO...


I'M VERY HAPPY THAT I CAN WATCH OVER HIM THIS WAY
SO THAT EVEN IF MR TIGER DOES APPEAR, THAT WOULDN'T BE A THREAT TO ANYONE
I WANT TO HELP THE BOSS BECOME MORE HONEST WITH HIS OWN FEELINGS,
SO YOU SEE, EVEN IF THERE ARE THINGS I FEEL UNCERTAIN ABOUT,
HE NEEDS ME AS A TIGER-TAMER.
HO-HO-HO! I SEE, I SEE.
YES!
WATCH OVER MIKAGE, RIGHT?

GRAND-FATHER!
BOSS?!
I WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS NOW.
EH?
GRANDFATHER TOLD ME HIS HEALTH WAS PARTICULARLY BAD TODAY AND MADE ME ATTEND THAT MEETING IN HIS PLACE
BUT IT SEEMS THAT I'VE BEEN HAD
EH?
SO WHY ARE YOU HERE, WITH HER, GRANDFATHER?

GRANDPA, PLEASE...
IT WAS GREAT...
YOU SEE, YOU WEREN'T AROUND, SO I TOOK KOUME-CHAN ON A DATE INSTEAD!
WHY DID YOU TWO COME HERE?
HO-HO-HO SEEMS I MADE A MISTAKE!
I HAD FUN TOO, THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
NO, IT'S ALL RIGHT!
SORRY, KOUME-CHAN
OH, WELL, WE WERE FOUND OUT, SO I GUESS I HAVE TO GO NOW...
I HOPE WE'LL SEE EACH OTHER SOON!

KOUME!
KOTA-ROU!
I KNOW!
COULD YOU PLEASE WAIT A BIT IN MY ROOM?
THUMP
YES...

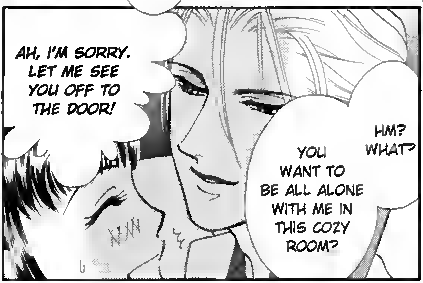
GRAND-FATHER!
SHE'S A GOOD GIRL
SHE'S CHEER-FUL, CARE-FREE, AND ALWAYS HOLDS HER GROUND
NO MATTER THE SITUATION OR THE OPPONENT. TO HER THAT DOESN'T MATTER
SHE DOESN'T GET UPSET OR FRIGHTENED
EVEN IF SHE FACES A TOMONAGA

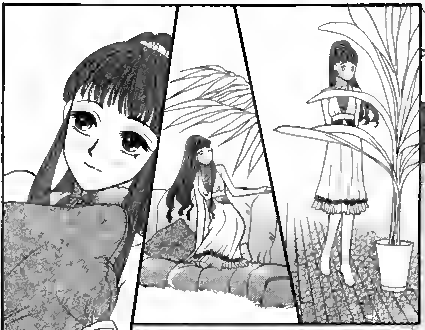
BUT SHE ISN'T FIT
TO BE THE FIRST LADY OF THE TOMONAGA FAMILY
THE MISTRESS OF THE TOMONAGA HOUSE HAS TO LIVE FOR THE SAKE OF THE FAMILY.
AND FOR BETTER OR WORSE, SHE'S A TIGER-TAMER
SHE DOESN'T SEE ANY-THING BUT YOU.
NOT TO MEN-TION
WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IF YOU HAVE A CHILD WITH A TIGER-TAMER
IT WILL TAKE THE POWERS OF THE TIGER-TAMERS OUTSIDE THE KAZA-MORI FAMILY AND INTO OURS FOR-EVER.
I HOPE YOU UNDER-STAND

WOW...!

MORE THAN YOU EXPECTED?
HE COMES HERE ONLY TO SLEEP, BUT IT SEEMS SUCH AN ATMOSPHERE IS NECESSARY TO HIM.
I EXPECTED MORE... INORGANIC THINGS.
AH...

SO THIS IS THE PLACE WHERE THE BOSS FEELS HE CAN RELAX...





VROOM
He He He He
CLICK
CLOSE
STEP STEP STEP
STEP STEP STEP
WELCOME HOME!

RUN
RUN
RUN
I'LL POUR YOU SOME FRESH TEA!
JUST IN TIME! I PUT THE KETTLE ON A WHILE AGO!
WHAT IS IT?
NO-THING

Cuddle
FLAP
FLAP
CALM DOWN!
ひょん
SFX POOF!
AHHH!
IF THERE'S SOMETHING YOU WANT, JUST DO IT!

I didn't mean to be kissed so suddenly
YOU WERE WAITING FOR ME
I'M VERY GLAD
REALLY?
YES

THIS IS THE PLACE WHERE THE BOSS FEELS AT HOME
I WONDER IF I CAN BECOME A PART OF IT, TOO
POUR
YOU KNOW, I BOUGHT A CAKE ON MY WAY HERE!
WE CAN EAT IT WITH THE TEA.
RUNNING AROUND
AH, ALMOST FORGOT!
WHILE YOU WERE OUT, I LET HIMSELF IN THE KITCHEN AND LOOKED AROUND.
AFTER THAT I...
TAKE
THUMP

JUST STAY LIKE THIS FOR A WHILE
CLOP
DID GRANDPA BUY YOU THE DRESS?
YES
BUT I'M NOT HAPPY WITH IT.
YES...
DO YOU LIKE IT?
WHY?
EHH?
BECAUSE IT'S SOMETHING SOMEONE ELSE BOUGHT FOR YOU!
But he's your grandpa!
IF I DIDN'T HAVE WORK EARLY TOMORROW, I'D TAKE IT OFF YOU IMMEDIATELY...
?!

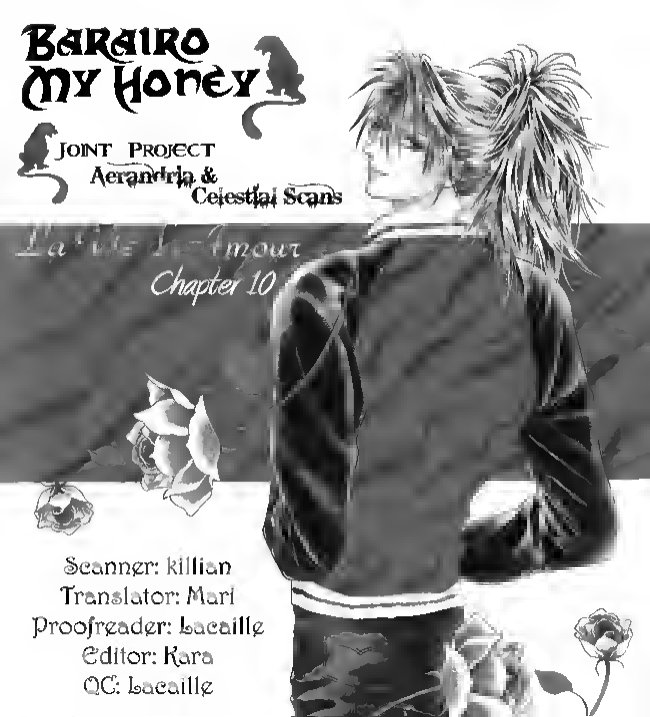
NOD
JUST SOME MORE AND I'LL SEND YOU HOME.
BUT JUST STAY LIKE THIS FOR A WHILE.
LET'S GO BUY YOU A RING TOMORROW.
SMILE
SLEEP
EEK!
IT SEEMS I'M VERY POSSESSIVE.

THERE WAS THE CAKE, ALMOST EATEN, AND THE BLACK TEA I MADE...
AND ALL AROUND THE BOSS...
MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE I THOUGHT THIS
BUT THAT DAY I SAW A DREAM
IF I WERE THE TIGER-MASTER, MY TIGER WOULD CERTAINLY BE OUT BY NOW...
WERE RUNNING LITTLE TIGERS, ALL BARAIRO'S CHILDREN!

<CHAPTER 10 BARAIRO TEA-PARTY> "THE END"

Bakairo My Honey

JOINT PROJECT
Aerandria & Celestial Scans



La Vie L'Amour
Chapter 10

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